

The Leader

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—HUMBOLDT'S COSMOS.

Contents:

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	Page	Miscellaneous	271	Religious Federation	276	Notes and Extracts	283
Parliament	266	PUBLIC AFFAIRS—		Federal Religious Unions	277	THE ARTS—	
The French President	268	Serious Invasion of the Privileges of		A Defence of Scripture Authenticity	277	The Lyric Drama	283
Orleans and Bourbon	268	the People	274	Doctrines	277	The Drama	283
The Cuban Expedition	268	Lord Grey's Australian Democracy	274	Marriage and Divorce	278	PROGRESS OF SCIENCE—	
California	269	Beginning at the Wrong End	275	Tetotalism	278	Magnetic Power, &c. &c.	283
Germany	269	The Working Tailors' Association	275	Laws of Nature	279	PORTFOLIO—	
The Church Movement	269	An Argument against Sanitary Re-		Right of the Suffrage	279	A Flight of Authorities	284
Six Hundred more Churches	270	form	276	LITERATURE—		Two Magnetic Séances	284
Labourers and the Labour Market	270	Credit	276	Pepe's Italian Struggle	280	Despair	285
The Serpentine	270	Clerical Infidelity	276	Young Russia	281	International Criticism	285
Mr. Cobden and Mr. Garbett	270	OPEN COUNCIL—		Newman's Phases of Faith	281	COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—	
The Egyptian Mummy	271	A Joint-Stock Coöperative Society	276	Books on our Table	282	Markets, Gazettes, &c.	285-88

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News of the Week.

Is any considerable proportion of the work executed in Parliament this week had been really useful, much credit might have been allowed to the Legislature; but, although the whole mass is not altogether vain, the bulk of it unquestionably must go for nothing. Parliament seems obliged to legislate as farmers grow corn, with more straw and chaff than grain. The Metropolitan Interments Bill, which is among the most useful works, is itself a sort of corn-stack encumbered by its own bulk. The improvement contemplated by Lord Naas's motion for going into committee on the mode of levying duty on home-made spirits is scarcely advanced by his defeat of Ministers; he carried his motion by 85 to 53, and Ministers were duly humbled; but there we presume the matter ends. It is the same with Lord Westmeath's bill to fix a minimum of encumbrances which shall bring estates under the operation of the Encumbered Estates Act: the main object of the bill obtained so much sanction in the House of Lords, that the Earl of Carlisle was fain to let it go to the Commons; whither it travels with a good deal of harsh language from Lord Glenall, against the act and the "dirty theory got up by the Manchester school." Among the positive utilities is the advancement of the Marriage Bill through committee in the Commons.

Mr. Hume and Sir Robert Peel have had a gladiatorial contest on the subject of art and its administration in the Palace at Westminster. Mr. Hume tried to cut off the salary of the commission, wishing the useful part of the building to be furnished before the Fine Arts Commission should proceed with its decorative works; and he took occasion to make a general censure of the failures about the building—the frustration of the plans, the increased estimates, the hindrances, the lapse of time, &c. All of which said, Sir Robert Peel got up, and, first showing that Mr. Hume had himself been among those who suggested expensive and dilatory alterations, launched into a general eulogium upon the artists engaged to decorate the building: he thus succeeded in making Mr. Hume ridiculous, while he enveloped the whole subject in a gilded cloud of parliamentary eloquence. The House laughed at Mr. Hume, and voted the money.

Out of the Australian Colonies Bill, some of the colonists hope to get the means of obtaining for themselves self-government, thinking to filch that concession from Lord Grey through the holes in his own measure. Amendments of the bill in the House of Lords have been rejected by decisive though not large majorities. Lord Montague proposed to have a double chamber, in vain. The Bishop of Oxford proposed to refer the bill to a select committee, in order to revise the errors which he pointed out after Mr. Lowe; Lord

Brougham moved to hear counsel at the bar,—in which case, of course, Mr. Lowe would have appeared, as Mr. Burge and Mr. Roebuck appeared for Jamaica and Canada: but the House stuck to the Ministerial side.

Moving for papers, Lord Jocelyn has given Ministers a jog on the subject of Indian railways; and Mr. Wilson has given the assurance that Ministers do not intend to let the matter flag.

The political movements out of doors are not very striking, distinguished, indeed, rather for negatives than positives. At the Consumption Hospital dinner, for example, the Nepaulese Ambassador, who was to have been the great ornament and attraction, was too unwell to attend. At the Merchant Tailors' dinner, Sir Robert Peel made his annual appearance, but did not announce the construction of any new political party. At the Protection Meeting in Market Harborough the defenders of the Corn Laws promulgated no new views; but did propose a halfpenny rate on their district, as the means of raising the sinews of war according to Lord Stanley's suggestion.

Movements still in Ecclesiastical affairs. The Gorham question is not suffered to subside; for, while Mr. Gorham obtains a writ of "Quare impedit" in the Court of Queen's Bench, the Bishop of Exeter obtains a rule in the Court of Exchequer to hear the argument on the points of law, which the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas had refused to hear. Mr. Gorham, therefore, stirs up the Archbishop of Canterbury to perform his Ministerial office of induction, while the Bishop of Exeter at last finds a court to listen to the law refinements of his counsel.

The High Tory but Low Church *Standard* bursts forth in a copious flood of indignation at the Romanist tendencies of the ceremonial in St. Barnabas Church at its opening. There was a procession in the Church as soon as the Bishop of London entered; on the altar were a cross and candlesticks—nay, "elegant" candlesticks; and the Bishop of London, horrible dictu, preached "unity."

Socially, the striking incident of the week has been a counterpart of the Dunn persecution of Miss Burdett Coutts: one McAllister, a discharged footman, has been trying to force his quondam mistress, Miss Bellow, to marry him; and, in self-defence, she is obliged to appear before a Police Court. If Lynch law can claim any respect, it is in the treatment of such fellows as this.

Vicissitude has no influence in disturbing the annual round of Ascot races. Be the season hot or cold, prosperous or poor, with its thousand births, and deaths, and marriages in the day, forgetting business and bankruptcy, all the world mounts into four-horse coaches or humbler substitutes, and drives out of town to Ascot.

With all his commonplace mistakes and his disingenuousness, force of character has been the trait

of Louis Philippe; the personal influence which it has gained for him, surviving even his downfall and the failure of his active faculties, is shown by the anxiety felt at the rumours of his being seriously ill. Paragraphs have appeared, from day to day, in the nature of semi-official bulletins; early in the week it was intimated that he was rapidly sinking under a mortal and incurable disease, understood to be cancer of the stomach; subsequently, the *Times* puts forth an authenticated statement, implying that the disease is nothing worse than bronchitis, and asserting that his health is not such as to cause any immediate anxiety. Meanwhile he has had a special visitor from France in the person of M. Thiers, whose mission has been ascribed, variously, to the dutiful desire of seeing his old master once more before death, and to some negotiation respecting the French throne. For the old story is revived, that the Orleanists and Legitimists are disposed to "swap" expectations: Henry V., it is expected, will be childless; Louis Philippe's grandson is now very young: to make way, then, for Henry V., with an understanding that he opposes no difficulties to the succession of the Count of Paris, would not be worse to the little Prince than to appoint his cousin as Regent during a minority. In this way the interests of two considerable parties would be amalgamated. But report says that the Duchess of Orleans stands out for the absolute rights of her little boy; though how any absolute "rights" can be more valuable just now than the increased probability obtained by such a coalition it is difficult to understand. Too much need not be made of the rumour, except in so far as it seems to show the importance still attached to Louis Philippe. It may also confirm the impression, that if a man with equal force of character were now to rise in France, of years better suited to activity, he would ipso facto take the lead of the people.

The poor President is by no means equal to that part. The reports about him this week exhibit him in a state of mystification. He is understood to be, as usual, "in difficulties"; his official and quasi-monarchical hospitality having urged him to "outrun the constable"; so that he has anticipated the increased salary which the National Assembly seems to have some difficulty in granting. It is quite natural that he should be disgusted; and when, at St. Quentin, he talks about his "real friends," the sarcasm is understood to be levelled at the recusants in the Assembly. Moreover, his Ministers are said to have outwitted him on the subject of the electoral law. He did not understand that the universal suffrage which elected him had been abolished with the universal suffrage which elected that disagreeable Assembly. Quite the reverse; he supposed that, while an improved constituency would elect a newer and a better chamber, the old constituency, in its admirable capacity of electing himself, would be retained. He is, therefore, exhibit-

ing some distrust towards "the friends of Order," and a little more rigour might induce him to throw himself into the arms of the people. Although Louis Napoleon terribly lacks force of character, such a circumstance might turn the balance of power in a very forcible way.

The people of Palermo have been making a new demonstration against their Government, with a positive outbreak; but it has been forcibly put down, and nothing has come of it. Sicily is separated from Italy, not only by water, but also by feeling; and the acts of the island cannot be taken as any indication of what is going on in the Peninsula.

The formidable Cuban expedition appears for the nonce to have ended in a ludicrous failure. Not only has General Lopez failed to establish a footing in Cardenas, but he has positively retreated from the island to Savannah, has been under arrest there upon a formal accusation, but acquitted, and once more let loose. This precipitate retreat implies a striking want of the headlong resolution demanded for any leader in an enterprise like his—the resolution which bears down resistance by sheer impetus. Cortez, whose name rises to every mind, would have made good his stand. But Lopez seems to be of a different mould; and the main body of buccaneers from the United States will find no landing place provided for them. Lopez makes that convenience contingent upon receiving more money from his friends in the United States. Instead of viewing their support as a favour, he feels that he confers a favour in acting for their profit and amusement. He has had some money for this taste of an invasion; he will invade in earnest if they will pay him some more down: "Twopence more, and up goes the donkey"! When the leader of the buccaneers stands on this footing, his irregularity and vacillation are not to be construed so strictly as they might otherwise be. Incapacity and irresolution add to the chances of ultimate failure; but, probably, the buccaneers will not turn back without another effort to make something by their voyage.

PARLIAMENT.

The Marquis of WESTMEATH moved the second reading of the Estates Encumbered Amendment Bill, on Monday evening, and, in doing so, explained that its object was to prevent the complete confiscation of the property of the Irish landowners.

"I know," said he, "that we are dogs, and that we are placed on the table like dogs to be submitted to the knife of the anatomist, for anatomical purposes. But such a treatment cannot be continued with safety, such a burlesque of justice cannot longer be tolerated."

Many estates had been sold far below their real value,—the average price not being more than seven years' or seven and a half years' purchase. To prevent this he proposed to enact that a moderate minimum of fifteen years' purchase should be fixed as the price below which no estate could be sold. He also proposed to introduce a clause into his bill whereby the owner of any estate which was bought under it would have protection, as was now the case in bankruptcy, until his estate was sold.

The Earl of CARLISLE granted that evils had resulted from the operation of the Encumbered Estates Act, but they were not of the aggravated character which had been represented. He should discourage the further progress of this bill.

The Duke of RICHMOND thought that when an estate was sold for seven and a half years' purchase a *prima facie* case was established against a law which so ruthlessly took away an estate from a man and his children.

The Earl of GLENGALL said the Encumbered Estates Act was nothing less than a downright robbery—"Hear, hear," from the Opposition benches)—nothing else than confiscation and plunder of the most infamous description—(Continued cheers from the same quarter).

If the Government continued to proceed with it, and refused to redress the grievances which it had inflicted on the people of Ireland, the people of Ireland would meet in Dublin and redress themselves—(Cheers continued). They would not submit to have their estates confiscated for a dirty theory got up by the men of the Manchester school. The act was a scandal to the Legislature. Land has been sold, on the average for eight and eight years and a half's purchase; but he knew of one estate which had not fetched more than a year and a half's purchase. There was fifteen millions worth of land now under the jurisdiction of those commissioners. Two millions worth was quite enough to be in the market at one time. A larger quantity of land was certain to lead to great depreciation. He knew of cases where, within three days after the sale, respectable men had been turned out of their own houses in the roads. Nay, there were cases worse even than that. One gentleman had an estate, on which he had

expended £3000 in improvements during the last few years, sold for £1850, although he had actually sent his son over to bid £2000 for it, but his son could not get into the room. The injustice of such a state of things was monstrous. "We are disgusted (continued the noble Earl) with these Manchester theories, and will not have them. We defy you to carry out this law. If you do, you will have a rebellion within six months, and you will deserve it. Charles I. and James II. lost their thrones for half of what you are doing every day. Lord Strathford's case was nothing to the villany perpetrated under this law. The amendment of the House of Commons about appointing receivers was a huge swindle."

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY entreated his noble friend to abstain from using language which in Ireland might be productive of dangerous consequences. He warned him against speaking of meetings to be held in Dublin for the purpose of repealing the law of the land by force.

The Duke of RICHMOND, Earl FITZWILLIAM, Lord BEAUMONT, and the Earl of WICKLOW, all supported the bill, or advised the restoration of the Encumbered Estates Act to its original shape.

The Earl of CARLISLE said that he should not divide against the bill after the very strong expression of opinion in its favour which he had just heard.

The Marquis of WESTMEATH expressed his gratification at the concession of the noble Earl; and, after some further conversation as to the conduct of the Commissioners appointed under the Encumbered Estates Act, the bill was read a second time without a division.

Lord BROUGHAM presented a petition, that certain parties deeply interested in the Australian colonies should be heard by counsel at the bar, in opposition to the Australian Colonies Government Bill. He quoted several precedents in support of the motion.

Earl GREY denied that the precedents cited furnished any argument in favour of the proposal, because, in all those cases, the parties had been personally interested. He would have been glad to hear counsel had such a course been consistent with the rules and practice of the House; but, as the case stood, he must resist the motion.

Lord MONTEAGLE contended that, as a matter of justice, principle, and policy, the petitioners ought to be heard at the bar.

Earl GRANVILLE said the colonists had not expressed any feeling, by public meetings or otherwise, against the bill, and he did not think any case had been shown for assenting to the motion of the noble and learned lord.

Lord BROUGHAM, in reply, contended that they were bound to hear parties who, by their accredited agents, declared they should be injured by their lordships' contemplated legislation.

The House having divided, the numbers were—

For the motion, 25—Against it, 33

Majority..... 8.

The Bishop of OXFORD moved that the bill be referred to a select committee. His chief objection to it was, its proposing to institute a single chamber; which, he contended, would undoubtedly lead to future internal political conflicts in the legislative body, and the establishment of a powerful and dominant democracy. This measure would perpetuate the mischievous influence of Downing-street upon the colonies.

He claimed the sanction of the noble earl to his views upon this point. The noble earl in another place, and under another name, had commented in words which he wished he could perfectly remember upon the mischievous absurdity of supposing that any Minister sitting in Downing-street could satisfactorily and usefully govern all our fellow-countrymen in the colonies—and how utterly untenable was the desire to retain such a power in hands so utterly incompetent to wield it.

But the most monstrous proposition in the bill was the provision for uniting the four colonies in one federation. Did the Government really mean to give this central federative body the power now exercised in Downing-street? If they did they would certainly dismember the empire, or, at all events, lay the seeds of such a consummation. He complained in strong terms of that part of the bill relating to the church. They were giving the church of England in the colonies all the restrictions of the English church at home, without its rank, its wealth, or its social position.

Earl GREY opposed the motion. The right reverend prelate ought to have proposed the bill be read a second time that day six months, seeing that he condemned every clause of it:—

"The right reverend prelate had referred to speeches delivered by him in the other House of Parliament. He could only say there was no opinion he then expressed to which he did not adhere this moment. He would say more—there was no opinion he then uttered which had not been acted on steadily, regularly, and continuously, while he had held office, and with the full consent of his colleagues; and he challenged the right reverend prelate to show where he had departed from them. When he declared there ought to be no vexatious interference with the affairs of the colony, had he said that no power was to be exercised by the imperial authority? If that was so, the sooner they got rid of the colonies the better."

He earnestly entreated their lordships not to throw out the bill by assenting to the amendment, but to consider the measure in committee, and adopt whatever amendments they might think necessary after a calm and deliberate examination of its provisions.

Lord STANLEY was anxious to agree to all that portion of the bill that was necessary to give the colonies the benefit of free institutions, and, therefore, he would consent to go into committee on the bill, provided he was assured that the clauses from 30 to 35 would be rejected, and that the clauses providing for a federal constitution would be expunged. The Earl GREY could not give the required assurances, though he would not consider the rejection of the clauses respecting the federal constitution as fatal to the bill.

The Peers having divided, the numbers were—

For the motion, 21—Against it, 34.

Majority against it, 13.

The House then adjourned.

Sir GEORGE GREY stated, in the House of Commons on Monday, that, in reply to the address of the House to her Majesty, praying that the collection and delivery of letters may entirely cease on Sunday, she will give directions that the request be complied with.

The chief business before the House of Commons that evening was a discussion on the new houses of Parliament. Mr. HUMPHREY moved that the grant of £103,610 proposed for carrying on the works should be reduced by £3000, with the view, as he said, to put an end to the proceedings of "the Committee of Taste." He thought the time had come for Parliament to interfere and prevent further waste. No one knew what the ultimate expense would be, and nearly all the requisites pointed out by the committee had been set aside. He adverted to the enormous expenditure which had taken place. Mr. Barry's original estimate was £727,000, but the amount already spent was upwards of £2,000,000. Unless the House interfered there would be no limit to the expenditure. Experiment also had proved that the new chamber was insufficient to accommodate the members. After giving a detailed account to show that arbitrary and unauthorized deviations from the original plan had been made, at great additional expense, Mr. Hume moved that the grant be reduced by the amount stated. If the House should approve of this motion he would afterwards move for a select committee to enquire into the whole subject of the new houses.

Sir CHARLES WOOD opposed the present motion, but would not object to the appointment of a committee to inquire whether any alterations were required for the accommodation of the members.

Sir ROBERT PEEL opposed the motion to reduce the vote for the decoration of the House. With regard to those alterations and deviations from the original plan, of which Mr. Hume complained so much, he quoted several passages from the report of the committee of 1844, in order to show that the honourable member for Montrose was one of the main suggesters of alterations, and, therefore, ought to be especially chary of impeaching Mr. Barry on the ground that such alterations had been made.

In his evidence before that committee, Lord Bessborough said the first deviation was providing a home for the Sergeant-at-Arms. Being asked if he could state when that was proposed, he replied, "During the sitting of the committee of both Houses which altered the plan of 1836. I can speak to that from a conversation I had with Mr. Hume—(A laugh). He (Sir R. Peel) read that evidence in vindication of Mr. Barry and of Earl de Grey, who, having expressed approbation of Mr. Barry, had incurred the censure of the honourable member for Montrose. He should have read it, if only to convince that honourable member that he ought to be tolerant of the opinions of others. A plan was offered by Mr. Barry, among other competitors, and adopted. [Mr. Hume: "And altered."] It was altered in 1836, and again at the instance of the hon. member. From Lord Bessborough's evidence it appeared that the Treasury consented reluctantly, and that the noble lord himself had objected in consistency with the advice of Sir B. Stephenson, who said, if they once consented to make alterations, more would be suggested. But who overruled that opinion? "I recollect," said Lord Bessborough, "Mr. Hume coming to me (great laughter), and stating that it was absolutely necessary the Sergeant-at-Arms, who had charge of the House, and so had a great responsibility for so large a building, should have an apartment." Lord G. Somerset inquired in what character did Mr. Hume make such applications? (A laugh.) The answer of Lord Bessborough was, that he made the applications as a member of the committee. Being asked if he acceded to the representation of the honourable member, Lord Bessborough replied, "I assented to it, but with very great reluctance. (Great laughter.) I got the consent of the Treasury, but they objected very much." Here were these two reluctant departments consenting to new buildings and fresh expenditure in consequence of the suggestion of the honourable member who now asked the House to curtail the vote for the new Houses of Parliament by £3000. It might be questioned whether it would not have been better had the Woods and Forests resisted the fascinations of the honourable gentleman. When Lord Bessborough was asked whether Mr. Hume stated the suggestion as his own opinion or that of the committee, the answer was that the honourable member described it as the general opinion. (A laugh.) [Mr. Hume: "Was

was the chairman?" Who was the chairman? "Mr. Hume was not the chairman of the committee, was he?" The evidence showed how improper was the conduct of the honourable member. He (Sir R. Peel) was sorry to make this exposure, and wished, by a postponement of the discussion till all the documents were produced, that an opportunity should have been afforded the honourable member of avoiding this painful dilemma.

He defended the course pursued by the Commission of Fine Arts, who had opened a most valuable competition to the native genius of the country. They had selected artists of the highest eminence, to whom they had given commissions, contingent upon the approbation of Parliament; but, if the Commission had abused their powers, and if a committee of the House of Commons was thought to be a better tribunal for the consideration of matters of taste, he should see the Commission of the Fine Arts extinguished without a murmur.

Mr. OSBORNE did not think the question was, whether the Fine Arts' Commission should be extinguished, but whether its labours should not be suspended till the completion of the house. If the new building had been either useful or beautiful, the enormous expenditure would not be grudged; but it was neither.

After some further discussion the House divided, when the numbers were—

For the motion, 62—against it, 144
Majority against it, 82.

Mr. HUME then moved for a committee to inquire into the whole subject of the new houses.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL opposed the motion. A complete return of the total expenditure would be made in a few days, and he thought they ought to have that before them before coming to a decision.

The House having divided, the numbers were—

For the motion, 55—against it, 85
Majority against it, 30.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved the second reading of the Lord-Lieutenancy Abolition Bill.

The motion was opposed by Mr. GRATTAN, Mr. G. A. HAMILTON, Colonel DUNNE, Mr. M. O'CONNELL, and Mr. GROGAN, but their speeches contained nothing worthy of notice. The debate was adjourned until Monday.

Earl GREY having moved that the House of Lords should resolve itself into committee on the Australian Colonies Government Bill, Lord MONTAGUE condemned in the most emphatic terms that part of the bill relating to the single chamber. The superiority of a double chamber had been recognized by men of all parties: Pitt, Burke, Fox, widely as they differed on many questions, all deemed it essential to the welfare of an infant colony that it should have a second chamber. In the United States the general conviction was the same; and they had, therefore, their House of Representatives and their Senate. The world has seen a sad and remarkable instance of the mischievous and dangerous effects arising from a single chamber in the French constitution of 1791—a chamber to be looked upon as a model of human folly; and yet that experiment has again been tried in our own times in France, and is likely to be again attended with the same fatal consequences. Earl Grey himself should be a witness in favour of a double chamber. He had recommended such an institution in the warmest terms to the Governors of Australia Proper and New Zealand. After reading extracts from various despatches of Earl Grey to prove this, Lord Montague asked him to state the grounds upon which he had abandoned, in 1850, all the fine principles and all the fine sentences which he had enunciated in 1847 in favour of the superiority of a double over a single chamber, especially since the progress of the Australian colonies, on which he justly prided himself, had not made two chambers less proper for them in 1850 than they were in 1847. He then read a large amount of evidence to prove that our colonies in Australia are favourable, not to a single, but to a double chamber; and he concluded by moving, as an amendment, to insert the following words:—

"That there shall be within each of the said colonies of New South Wales and Victoria a Legislative Council and a Representative Assembly."

Earl GREY did not attempt to reply. He contented himself with expressing a hope that their Lordships would support the Government in carrying out a plain and simple principle, and would not disturb existing institutions.

Lord ABERNETHY feared that the colonists would return a single democratic chamber. By this bill they placed the power of governing the colonies in the hands of the worst class of the people. Lord LYTTELTON hoped they would adopt the simple words of the amendment, leaving the details to be settled hereafter.

The Earl of ST. GERMAN thought the amendment would unsettle an arrangement which the colonies had accepted as satisfactory. Lord WODEHOUSE did not consider that the colonists had ever objected to the principle of two chambers, but only to two, one of which should be entirely composed of nominees.

Their Lordships having divided, the numbers were—

For the amendment, 20—Against it, 22
Majority against it,2.

The House then proceeded with the bill. A new clause was inserted by Earl GREY and agreed to, providing, "that every man having a freehold estate of the clear value of £100, or occupying a dwelling-house of the clear annual value of £10, or holding a license to depasture lands, or having a leasehold estate of the annual value of £10, should be entitled to vote." The effect of this will be to lower the franchise somewhat.

Lord LYTTELTON moved the insertion of a clause giving the Governors of New South Wales, Victoria, Van Diemen's Land, and South Australia, power to repeal the laws relating to the sale of waste lands.

Earl GREY opposed the amendment. The House divided, and the numbers were—

For the amendment, 18—against it, 28
Majority against it, 10.

The Bishop of OXFORD moved the insertion of a clause to enable the Church of England in the colonies to lay down rules for its own internal government, to emanate from an assembly of the bishop, clergy, and laity; but did not press the clause to a division on receiving an assurance from the Government that an enquiry should be instituted as to the best mode of dealing with the question.

The House then resumed, the report was brought up, and the House adjourned.

The House of Commons having gone into committee on the Metropolitan Interments Bill, on Tuesday evening, Sir GEORGE GREY said,

"He still thought it necessary to retain the sum originally proposed of 6s. 2d. for every burial in consecrated ground of bodies removed from metropolitan parishes; but, as in large and populous parishes, that would amount to a very great sum, he now intended to propose that those several sums of 6s. 2d. should not be received by the clergyman of the parish as a fee, but should be carried to a separate account; that the first proceeds there of should be applied to the payment of the salaries of the chaplains, and that the residue should be applied towards making just and equitable compensation to the existing incumbents of parishes, calculated according to the rates of their incomes derived from burial fees during the five years immediately preceding the passing of the act."

Sir B. HALL would move as a proviso that no incumbent should receive more in consequence of the passing of the act than he would have derived from the net annual income to which he was at present entitled.

Sir GEORGE GREY said he would take time to consider this proposition.

Clause 32 having been read, which makes special provision for cases where the incumbent now derives a profit from interments of bodies brought from other parishes,

Sir B. HALL referred to the scandalous manner in which some of the London clergy had made a traffic of their burial grounds. In St. Giles's Cemetery, Old St. Pancras-road, inducements were held out to people to bury in that ground, so that the number of burials was six times greater than that of the deaths in the parish:—

"In 1846 there were 896 deaths in the parish of St. Giles, but there were 2323 burials in the ground to which he was referring. In 1847 the deaths were 1298, and the burials 2877; in 1848 the deaths were 1111, and the burials 3578; while for one half of 1849 the deaths were 573, and the burials, 3440. A case could be proved in which a body was entirely broken up, the head being separated from the other parts, and the whole in this disgusting condition put into a wheelbarrow and removed to another part of the ground, where they were thrown into a hole—(Hear, hear). This was for the purpose of making room for others; yet the rector, when under examination described the cemetery as in an admirable state. These things were done under the sanction of the rector himself, the Reverend Mr. Tyler, and for his sexton another clergyman who had been a soldier, and was now a clergyman, a sexton, an undertaker, and a stonemason—(A laugh). It was impossible for him to think of compensating a clergyman in the way proposed by the bill who had resorted to such practices as he had pointed out for the purpose of increasing his fees."

Sir GEORGE GREY could not believe that the Reverend Mr. Tyler could be guilty of such conduct.

Sir B. HALL said the evidence on this point was not known till after the examinations of the Board of Health.

Mr. BRIGHT said this churchyard in which the reverend soldier, sexton, undertaker, and stonemason, carried on his trade was purchased by the ratepayers of St. Giles's. Now, it was a monstrous thing that these ratepayers should purchase this ground, that then the rector should put into his pocket all the fees derived from the burials, and after all come forward and ask for compensation when the ground was to be given up. That churchmen should tolerate in their church a system like this only made him wish that every such churchman should carry a parson on his back to the day of his death. (Laughter.)

The clause was then ordered to stand part of the bill, several other clauses were agreed to, the Chairman reported progress, and the committee was ordered to be resumed on Friday.

Lord NAAS moved that the House resolve itself into a committee to take into consideration the pre-

sent mode of levying the duty on home-made spirits in bond. He described the mode in which foreign spirits are estimated for the purposes of duty, and showed the unfairness of the system by which home-made spirits are gauged, without regard to the loss between the time of bonding and the time of selling.

Mr. JAMES WILSON defended the system of bonding, as at present conducted, and opposed the motion.

Sir CHARLES WOOD spoke at considerable length in opposition to the motion. If it were carried, either fourpence per gallon must be added to the duty on home-made spirits, or the same amount must be deducted from colonial spirits. The British distiller would gain nothing by the change.

The House then divided, when the numbers were—

For the motion, 85—Against it, 53
Majority against Ministers,32.

The House then resolved itself into committee accordingly, and several resolutions were proposed and carried, the effect of which will be, that the duties payable on British spirits, when taken out of warehouse for home consumption, shall be charged on the quantity ascertained by the measure and strength of what is actually delivered.

Sir CHARLES WOOD, although he would not oppose the resolutions, after the vote just came to, considered himself perfectly free to take whatever course he might consider proper.

Lord JOCELYN moved for papers relating to railway communication in India, and took occasion to enter at some length into the comparative advantages of the different lines projected in the east, west, and south of India. He urged strongly the claims of the Madras and Arcot line, pointing out its facilities and encouraging prospects, and concluded with an earnest appeal to the Indian department of the Government to furnish the population of that vast empire with the means of intercommunication.

Mr. JAMES WILSON defended the course taken by the Board of Directors. So far from the East India Company and the Board of Control having been negligent or backward in promoting railway and other communications in India, they had taken measures with that view which, in any other circumstances, would have been hardly prudent. He could assure the noble lord and the House that the East India Company and the Government were perfectly disposed to extend the same privileges to Madras as had been extended to the other Presidencies, as soon as they possessed the necessary information, which they had taken means to obtain as soon as possible. The question was one of time, not of preference or privilege. With regard to a report communicated by some Indian papers, that the Bengal Railway had been abandoned, he felt it to be his duty to say that there was not one word of truth in that report; on the contrary, the East India Railway, as well as that of Bombay, was going on to the entire satisfaction of the East India Company and the Government.

After a short discussion, in which Mr. AGLONBY, Sir T. COLEBROOKE, Sir JOHN HOBHOUSE, and Mr. MANGLES took part, the motion was agreed to.

In moving the second reading of the Court of Chancery Bill, on Wednesday, Mr. TURNER said the object of the bill was to lessen the delays attending proceedings in the Court of Chancery. He had seen so much property wasted, and so many families ruined in enquiries which might have been avoided, that he felt it his duty to bring forward a remedial measure. There is at this moment property to the amount of £50,000,000 under the control of the Court of Chancery. He then described the alterations which he proposed to make in the existing law.

Sir JOHN ROMILLY would not offer the slightest opposition to the second reading of the bill. He entirely concurred in the object for which it was framed, and had endeavoured to promote it in a measure which was now in the other House.

After a few remarks from Mr. P. WOOD and Mr. ANSTAY, the bill was read a second time.

After one or two remarks on the address of the House of Commons to the Queen on Sunday labour, which was carried in a thin House by a small majority, Lord BROUGHAM asked whether letters might be delivered on Sunday to those who apply at the Post-office for them between the hours of divine service?

The Earl of MINTO: No; they are to be locked up in the box.

Lord BROUGHAM: Then I hope that the people of England, and especially the merchants of Liverpool and other great towns, will learn in the next six months the consequences of this order.

In moving for copies of letters addressed by Lord John Russell to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, on the subject of the issue of a commission of inquiry, and copies of any resolutions or communications entered into or made on behalf of those universities in relation to the same subject, Lord MONTAGUE said he did not suppose the Government were actuated by any hostile feeling towards the universities, but he could not help thinking that such an inquiry was uncalled for and injudicious. It was far better that the universities should be left to them-

selves to originate and carry out reforms in their system of education. He believed that Oxford, and he was certain that Cambridge, of which he was more competent to speak, were engaged at the present moment in carrying out such reforms, and in his opinion Government interference was more likely to check than to facilitate the improvement of education.

The Earl of CARLISLE said there could be no objection to furnish the papers moved for, and he could assure the House that Ministers were actuated by the most friendly spirit towards the universities. He was not disposed to ignore or undervalue the many improvements effected by those bodies in their systems of education, but at the same time it could not be denied that many of their customs and statutes were antiquated or obsolete, and the Government, therefore, thought that a commission of inquiry would be very desirable.

The Earl of POWIS saw great reason to fear that the commission would only be a prelude to the admission of Dissenters to the universities.

Lord BROUGHAM, though he did not conceive that the Government were hostile to the universities, still thought the issuing of the commission would be a very great mistake.

After some conversation, in which the Earl of CARLISLE declared that the Government had no intention to frame the commission after the model of the Chapter Commission, and the Duke of WELLINGTON expressed his satisfaction at that declaration, the motion was agreed to.

The House of Commons was occupied for some time in committee on the County Court Extension Bill, and various clauses, proposed by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. MELLINGS, were, after discussion, added to the bill, which is to be read a third time on Wednesday.

The motion of Mr. EWART, that the House resolve itself into committee on the Public Libraries and Museums Bill, was opposed by Colonel SMITHORP, who moved that its further progress be postponed till that day six months, and also by Mr. FORBES.

Mr. WYLD could not account for the opposition which the agricultural members gave to this bill, unless by supposing that they were alarmed lest it should lead to the diminished consumption of an article in which they largely dealt (malt), because it appeared from the whole course of evidence on this subject that, in proportion as institutions of this kind were established, drunkenness and crime had diminished. (Hear.)

The House having divided, the numbers were:—

For the amendment, 21—Against it, 87

Majority for going into Committee 66.

After some conversation it was agreed that the committee on the bill should sit again on Wednesday.

The House having gone into committee upon the Marriages Bill, Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER moved the insertion of words, in the third clause, providing that no member of either Church who may contract a marriage contrary to the doctrine or discipline of the Church to which he belongs shall be exempted from spiritual or ecclesiastical censure or punishment, and that no sentence for restitution of conjugal rights shall be pronounced by any ecclesiastical court in any suit between the parties to such marriage.

Mr. S. WORTLEY opposed this amendment, the effect of which was to extend ecclesiastical authority, and whilst it recognised the validity of these marriages for all civil and temporal purposes, would leave the parties exposed to ecclesiastical censure.

Mr. COCKBURN thought there could be nothing more mischievous than the proposed amendment; for the committee, if they agreed to it, were about to place the ecclesiastical tribunals in direct opposition to the civil tribunals of the country.

After a brief debate, in which Mr. OSWALD, Mr. WOOD, Mr. GOULBURN, and other members took part, the amendment was negatived by 145 to 103.

Colonel CHATTERTON moved a proviso that the bill should not extend to Ireland, which was opposed by Mr. S. WORTLEY, and negatived by 132 to 114.

The bill was then reported.

THE FRENCH PRESIDENT.

The chief topic of discussion in France, for the last few days, has been the Dotation Bill. The subject was formally discussed in the French Chamber, on Saturday, when Ministers urged very strongly the necessity of increasing the allowance of the President on account of his being subjected to extraordinary expenses. The Legitimists opposed the bill, though not in a very determined manner. They cautioned Ministers against giving it the character of a permanent dotation. They considered that it would be sufficient to defray the debts of the President, without creating for him what they viewed as tantamount to a Civil List. The Republican party made the most decided opposition to the measure. They regarded it as inopportune, unconstitutional, and impolitic. They were of opinion that nothing would be thereby added to the dignity of the Executive, while great discontent would be produced in the country, which loudly called for retrenchment. M. Repellin

asked the Government if they thought the allowance insufficient, why not have introduced it in the budget of 1850? He maintained that it was not necessary, but the desire to constitute a civil list, which occasioned the presentation of such a project, and it was not the President but the Prince that they wished to give a dotation to. General Subervie observed that, in 1799, only 500,000*fr.* allowance was allotted to the First Consul, and the Consulate, he added, lasted four years without any one asking for an increase of allowance, and yet the First Consul resided at the Tuileries, and cut a very good figure there.

It is difficult to say what the ultimate decision of the Assembly will be. In the committee appointed to consider the bill there is said to be a majority of three against the dotation, but the general belief is that they will be gained over. A considerable number of members, who do not approve of giving a permanent allowance of 3,600,000*fr.* to the President, and who still do not see how Louis Napoleon can accept of less, after his formal declaration that he would not agree to any modification, are disposed to grant the full amount of the sum demanded, but to limit it to one year; so that the question will be again brought forward this time next year.

The President, in the uniform of a general of the National Guard, left the Elysée on Sunday about nine o'clock, in an open carriage, for the Northern Railway. He was accompanied by the Ministers of War and of Commerce, and two orderly officers, and was escorted by a body of Lancers. A special train was waiting to carry him to St. Quentin, for the inauguration of the railway from that place to Creil. The President arrived at half-past six on Sunday evening in the theatre of Saint Quentin, where a banquet was served. Ten long tables extended over the stage and pit united. The hall was splendidly decorated, and lit, and crowded with spectators, for the greater part ladies. The President had on his right the Mayor of Saint Quentin, M. Baroche, the Bishop of Soissons, and General d'Hautpoul. Baron Rothschild, the director of the railway, MM. Bineau and Dumas, and Lucien Murat sat on his left. When the dessert was served, the mayor stood up and delivered a short address of thanks to the President for attending the inauguration. The President replied in the most complimentary terms, and spoke in a rather ambitious style of his great mission as the ruler of France.

"It happens," said he, "that you scarcely are acquainted with me, and my acts as well as sentiments are continually sought to be misrepresented to you. Fortunately the name I bear reassures you, and you know at what high sources I have imbibed my convictions. The mission which I have to fulfil to-day is not new; its origin and end are known. When, forty-eight years ago, the First Consul visited this place to inaugurate the canal of St. Quentin, as to-day I visit you to inaugurate the railway, he came to say, 'Be calm, the storms are passed. I will cause to triumph the great truths of our revolution, but I will repress with equal force new errors and old prejudices'—(applause)—by bringing back security, by encouraging all useful enterprises. It is my wish to give birth to new industries, to enrich our fields, to ameliorate the lot of the people. You have only to look about you to see if he kept his word. Well, my task to-day is the same, although easier. The good instincts of the revolution must be encouraged, and the bad must be boldly withstood. The people ought to be enriched by all the institutions of Providence and assistance which reason approves, and ought to be well convinced that order is the head source of all prosperity. But order, according to my view, is not an empty word which everybody interprets according to his own fancy; order is the maintenance of what has been freely chosen and sanctioned by the people. It is the national will triumphing over all factions."

Before quitting St. Quentin he handed to General Roquet 400*fr.* to be distributed amongst the small garrison of the place. The papers favourable to the Dotation Bill are at pains to state that there was not a hospital nor a manufactory he visited during his journey where he did not leave marks of his bounty. Of course this will be deemed an excellent argument for voting him a larger income.

Government still remains as sensitive as ever to the attacks of the press. On Saturday the *Feuille du Peuple* was seized at the Post-office for publishing a seditious article on the Electoral Law. On Friday the director of the *Voix du Peuple* was condemned by the Court of Assize of Paris to imprisonment for six months and to pay a fine of 3000*fr.*, for having published a seditious libel, on the 1st of April last, containing an attack on the Catholic religion. M. Victor Maugin, the director of the *National de l'Ouest*, has been sentenced by the Court of Assize of Nantes to six months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of 1000*fr.*, for having published a libel on Colonel Thomas, of the 11th regiment of light infantry, accusing him of having crossed the stone bridge at Angers whilst his men, by his orders, crossed the suspension bridge, by which numbers were drowned, the bridge having given way under their weight. We perceive also that the Prefect of the Haute-Vienne has issued a proclamation declaring that, as the reading of journals aloud in factories and workshops convert these latter, in a manner, into clubs, and prevent work, such reading is interdicted in that department.

ORLEANS AND BOURBON.

The departure of M. Thiers from Paris, on a visit to Louis Philippe, has furnished a fruitful subject of speculation to the French journals. According to one account, M. Thiers, in order to guard against uncharitable constructions as to the motives of his journey, had an interview with the President before his departure. He did not, it is said, disguise his intention of visiting the ex-King, but represented this step as a duty which he owed to his old master, whose life was fast ebbing under the progress of a fatal disease. The same paper says that "Louis Philippe is said to be dying of cancer in the stomach, and that his physicians say his life can scarcely last a month longer." It is added that the President of the Republic expressed himself gratified by the confidence M. Thiers placed in him, and gave his full concurrence to the object the honourable gentleman had in view.

As regards the health of Louis Philippe, the accounts representing him as alarmingly ill have been officially contradicted by the *Times* in the following paragraph:—

"THE COUNT DE NEUILLY.—We are requested to state that the ex-King of the French, although suffering from a very serious chronic affection, is still not in a state to cause any apprehension of immediate danger, and that he has already experienced some benefit from the air of St. Leonhard." He has been confined to the house since his arrival there by an attack of bronchitis, which has added to the difficulty of treating his previous malady, and has suffered also from the rapid succession of atmospheric changes, but has already so far recovered as to be able to drive out."

Letters from Paris state that M. Guizot, M. de Salvandy, and M. Duchatel, are also about to pay a visit to Louis Philippe, who has expressed a desire to assemble several of his old Ministers at Claremont, to discuss some very important questions relating to the Bourbon and Orleans dynasties. The French Legitimist journals look with considerable suspicion on the visit of M. Thiers to England. They cannot believe that he has any good will to the Bordeaux pretender.

THE CUBAN EXPEDITION.

The buccaneering attempt of General Narceio Lopez to wrest the "Queen of the Antilles" from the dominion of Spain has proved an ignominious failure. By the steam-ship *Hibernia*, which arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday, the intelligence received is such as to leave no doubt concerning the defeat and flight of the piratical invaders. The previous accounts were that Lopez, after taking Cardenas, had marched upon Matanzas, with a greatly increased army. It now appears that the latter part of the story was a New York fabrication.

General Lopez, "Commander-in-Chief of the expedition to emancipate Cuba," sailed from New Orleans in the steamer *Creole* with 600 men, on the 12th of May. He first went to the Isle of Contoy, on the coast of Yucatan, about 120 miles from Cuba, and from there he went to Cardenas, where he landed on the morning of the 19th. Their first exploit was an attack upon the gaol, which they mistook for the barracks, and which was defended by only fifteen men, three of whom were killed, when the rest surrendered. They next attacked the Governor's house, which they finally took, and by way of showing the Cubans the amiable and virtuous motive of the assault, the house was burned, and the Governor taken prisoner. One account says, that fifty of the Spanish troops and thirty of the inhabitants were killed, besides invaders, who have not told their loss, though many wounded were carried on board the *Creole*. After this bloodshed, the men of the expedition, finding that no Cubans joined it, and hearing that a large force of Spanish regulars was approaching, insisted on returning to the *Creole*—so says Lopez—and then the *Creole* set sail with all possible speed for Key West, having been at Cardenas about three days. She was chased by the Spanish war-steamer *Pizarro*, but reached the American territory by fairly distancing her pursuer.

On arriving at Key West, Lopez and one of his aids immediately embarked for Savannah, on board the steamer *Isabel*, and arrived at the latter port early on the 24th, taking up his quarters at the principal hotel. He was arrested at the instance of the United States marshal, and, with his aid, taken before Judge Nichols; but, as no witnesses appeared against them, they were released. Lopez and his aid then left for Mobile; but not until he had made a speech to the people, in which he said that he would yet accomplish the freedom of Cuba. It was reported that Lopez had sent telegraphic despatches to New York for men and money, but particularly for money—in order that he and his men may again visit Cuba in the *Creole*. But the New York conspirators are not exactly in a position to comply with this request, for the United States authorities have evidently made up their minds to enforce the law against all such piratical attempts. On the arrival of the *Creole* at Key West, the collector of that port went on board and took possession of the vessel in the name of the Government of the United States, for having violated the neutrality laws. There have

been several Cabinet meetings at Washington on the subject, and Sir Henry Bulwer is said to have warned Mr. Clayton that, by a secret clause in the existing treaty between England and Spain, we are bound to interfere at any time when Cuba is threatened with invasion or in danger.

The President has caused explicit instructions to be given to the district attorneys everywhere to commence proceedings against every person who has had anything to do with the expedition, and it is said that three months' imprisonment, and a heavy fine will be the sentence of all who may be convicted. The editor of the *Verdad*, a Spanish paper published in New York, has been arrested and held to bail in 5000 dollars, on a charge made against him by the Spanish Consul: and it is believed that arrests will take place in most of the Atlantic cities.

Judge Betts in delivering his charge, in the United States District Court of New York, to the grand jury, on the 27th ult., explained the law and the Act of Congress of 1818, in regard to the fitting out of armed expeditions against the nations with which the United States are at peace, according to which, as indeed according to common sense and common justice, all such expeditions were declared piratical.

Nothing has yet been heard of the other divisions of the invading force, of which so many exaggerated statements were given. It was rumoured that one of them consisting of 1000 men had landed near Cape Antonio, and that a large naval and military force was despatched against them from Havana. If this be the case the whole of them will, no doubt, be taken prisoners, and dealt with as such buccaners deserve.

We are glad to see that the New York papers are all but unanimous in their condemnation of this outrageous revolution of the law of nations. The *Courier and Enquirer* calls upon Government to punish all who have been concerned in this violation of American law. The *New York Tribune*, one of the ablest, most widely circulated, and influential newspapers in America, speaks out boldly on the subject:—

"If the expedition intended to revolutionize Cuba has collapsed and run away, a salutary influence on public sentiment will thereby be exerted. The impunity and seeming triumph which attended the robbery of Texas from Mexico has generated a depraved public opinion among our people, which puts conscience entirely aside in matters of national concern. A band of western adventurers wrested Texas from Mexico. We first recognized them as a nation, then admitted them into our confederacy, then adopted their preposterous claim to be extended to the Rio Grande, and invaded territory still remaining in the undisputed and peaceable possession of Mexico; made war on Mexico, beat her badly for resisting this new aggression, and took a large slice more of her territory for the expense of so fogging her, compelling her to cede it, and accept a pecuniary consideration therefor. All this having been done at first with the connivance, and afterwards by the open exertions of our people and Government, who believes that we can stop here? Though the 'bloody instructions' should 'return to plague the inventor,' they are none the less instructions for that. The tiger has tasted blood, and no longer crouches at the word of his keeper. The ill-employed, precariously-subsisting population of our cities are eager for new annexations and new conquests. Their adventurous spirits revolt at the idea of digging and delving for a few shillings per day, when tropical islands and luxurious provinces are to be had for the winning. They long for plunder and renown, and are particularly prone to embark in the liberation of all (white) mankind from every yoke but their own. We trust Cuba may yet be free, internationally as well as externally; but we do not hope for, nor desire, her emancipation by marauding expeditions, launched against her from our own shores, while she is tranquil at home and at peace with all the world."

CALIFORNIA.

The last arrivals from America bring intelligence from San Francisco to the 21st of April, at which date the prospects of the new colony were highly favourable. The rainy season had terminated, and the movement towards the mines had been general. Increasing experience had rendered the labour less a matter of chance. Quicksilver was getting into common use, and the reports from the various districts were more uniformly encouraging. The daily arrival of immigrants continued large, and the fact that no idea seems ever to be entertained that these arrivals will interfere with the profits of previous comers, shows the universal conviction of the riches of the country being comparatively inexhaustible. At Sonora and near Stockton immensely rich placers have been discovered, some of the holes yielding ten pounds weight of gold dust. At Mormon Gulch, two men, named Hyers and Brewer, had dug out twenty-eight oz. in a single morning, besides a lump weighing more than a pound of pure gold. The Californian journals abound in such accounts, some of which, it is to be feared, are much magnified, if not altogether fabulous.

An exchange and reading-room had been opened at San Francisco, and several large failures had occurred; but for such events we were prepared by the previous news from San Francisco.

The import trade on the whole was very satisfactory, but lumber, which was lately so high, had fallen to an almost nominal price, and real estate was not above one-third its recent value. The estimate of

the State Controller of the expenses of the Government of California for the current year was 483,924 dollars. A statement of the number of passengers arrived at San Francisco by sea during the twelve months ending the 15th of April, had also been prepared, showing a total of 62,223, of whom only 1979 were females. The number of ships that had arrived was 1113 with a tonnage of 361,955, the proportion of American being 695 ships, and 283,589 tonnage. Just before the sailing of the present mail the number of vessels in the port of San Francisco was 360, and the number employed on the rivers, including steamers, was 57.

It is remarkable the number of newspapers that have sprung up in California within the last year. Many of them are daily papers—and not a few are edited by Englishmen, and the paper is said to be supplied by a celebrated Edinburgh house.

GERMANY.

From Dresden we learn that, in consequence of the dissolution of the Chambers, the Government, on the 1st, considered it necessary to redouble the military precautions against any outbreak, although Dresden has been for more than a year in a state of siege. The detachments at all the guardhouses and posts were increased in number, the cannon in the Arsenal were kept ready for service at a moment's notice, and the streets were patrolled by strong parties of cavalry and infantry. There was no visible movement among the people to justify these formidable preparations; but it appears the determination of all the German Governments not to be again taken by surprise as they were in 1848 and 1849. In Dresden there is very little danger of any disturbance, for the people have no arms. But in all the capitals of Europe it seems to be the policy of the Government not to conceal the force at their disposal; they rather parade it, even when no positive peril can be supposed to be impending.

On the afternoon of the 3rd rumours were generally circulated in the city that the Ministry had determined to publish, as a decree, a law on the press, a law on the right of association, and immediately to summon the Landtag as it existed in 1848; that is, the same two Chambers, composed of the identical deputies who then sat, and were superseded by the Chambers created under the pressure of the revolution, and the election-law that sprang from it.

The Government has published a statement of the reasons that have compelled it both to dissolve the late Chambers, to cancel the present election law, and to avoid even a new election under the old one.

The Ministerial plea in defence is, that the administration of affairs under all the assemblies chosen under the new election law has become a total impossibility, and therefore it has advised the King to get rid at once of the Chambers and the election law that created them, and return to that more practicable body of men who represented the nation before the revolution.

The document is signed by all the Ministers, and is accompanied by a decree, containing the restrictive regulations with respect to the press and the right of association and public meeting before alluded to. They enact that every meeting must be notified to the authorities twenty-four hours before it is held; on all occasions police agents are to be present at such meetings, to whom implicit obedience is to be paid.

The chief authority in each district has the power of suspending any journal or periodical that has been twice seized, and after such suspension, the publication of any such journal will incur a fine of 50 to 200 thalers for every number that may appear, or imprisonment from fourteen days to eight weeks. The proprietors of any printing establishment who may violate the above order, may be forbidden by the district authority from carrying on their business for a fixed or unspecified period; the permission of the police must be obtained for the publication of all placards except those which contain trading announcements, &c.; the same permission is required to sell or hawk journals; all these regulations extend to pictures, lithographs, and musical publications.

The law as to the right of association and holding public meetings is the same as that of Prussia; that on the press is more severe.

The old Landtag, as summoned, will meet on the 1st of July.

A proclamation of the 4th re-introduces the punishment of death, which was abolished on the 3rd of January, 1849.

At the meeting of the Deputies of the city of Leipzig on the 6th instant, M. Henry Brockhausen moved the postponement of all other business in order that the Assembly might consider the position in which the Government had placed the country. After condemning the objects and proceedings of the Government, he proposed a resolution declaring the abolition of the electoral law of 1848 and the restoration of that of 1831, as an unconstitutional, oppressive, and dangerous measure, calculated to alarm and corrupt by its open violation of promises and contracts solemnly made. With the concurrence of the

mover, the proposition was referred to a committee by a great majority.

The *Staats Anzeiger* of the 7th publishes the new regulations on the press which the Prussian Government has issued on the authority of the 63d article of the constitution. They are contained in 14 paragraphs, the substance of which is as follows: the post-office may decline the transmission of particular journals; caution money may be demanded for periodicals appearing once a month or oftener, scientific journals excepted; for journals appearing oftener than three times a week the following caution will be required, viz., in cities and towns of the first class, 5000 thalers, of the second class, 3000 thalers, of the third class, 2000 thalers, and for all others, 1000 thalers. For sheets appearing less frequently the half of the above sums will be demanded. The publishers of existing newspapers are subjected to the new law, which is also applicable to lithographed sheets. The deposited caution will be forfeited on the third condemnation. Journals published out of Prussia may be prohibited. The determination of the punishment is not to be referred to the jury.

The population of Hesse-Darmstadt are holding meetings in all parts of the principality to protest against the policy of the Government on the German question, and in favour of the Erfurt Union, as a step towards the anxiously desired German unity.

THE CHURCH MOVEMENT.

In the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday, the Attorney-General moved that a writ be issued to the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, requiring him to inquire and certify to this court upon the matters whereon the second, third, and fourth issues were joined in a *quære impedit* against the Bishop of Exeter for refusing to institute the Reverend Mr. Gorham to the living of Bramford Speke, in the county of Devon. His Lordship had pleaded that he had examined Mr. Gorham, and upon such examination the bishop found him to hold unsound doctrines and opinions contrary to the Christian faith, and of the united Church of England and Ireland, as contained in the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-nine Articles, to wit, that spiritual regeneration is not given in and by the sacrament of baptism, and that infants are not thereby regenerated, contrary to the true Christian faith. In reply it had been pleaded that, at the time of the presentation, Mr. Gorham was a fit person to be instituted, unless he held unsound doctrines, as alleged by the bishop, and as to that enquiry was prayed for. The form of the writ now applied for enjoined the archbishop to call before him such persons as he might think proper, and to make known to the justices of this court on a day named, whether he (Mr. Gorham) held the doctrines mentioned in the plea.

Mr. Justice Coleridge: Suppose the clerk should make different answers before the archbishop from what he made before the bishop?

The Attorney-General said, he could not tell how it might be in that case. It might be a question whether the last could be referred back to the first. He then cited several authorities in support of his motion.

The writ was awarded accordingly.

In the Court of Exchequer, on Monday, the Lord Chief Baron said that in the case of Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter, in which a rule to show cause why a prohibition should not issue had been moved for, the court proposed taking that course which would bring the whole case fully before them, by granting a rule, and hearing the arguments at the sittings after term, and delivering their judgment. From its great importance the case required consideration; yet it was also most important that it should be decided with the least possible delay. The Court, therefore, would grant a rule to show cause, returnable next day, cause to be shown on the 29th instant, and from day to day, till the case is finally disposed of.

THE GORHAM CASE.—Arrangements have been made for holding a great public meeting of the clergy and laity of the Church of England on the 27th inst., for the adoption of certain resolutions with reference to the late decision of the Judicial Committee in the case of "Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter," and the consequences arising therefrom. The meeting is looked forward to with much interest by what is generally termed the High Church Party, the principal men connected with which will be present to take part in the proceedings. The promoters are anxious to secure the countenance and support of all who feel that a tacit acquiescence by the Church of England in the recent decision of the Privy Council would be an "unspeakable" misery. An address to the Throne will be submitted to the meeting, setting forth the Church's rights as to spiritual freedom, reminding her Majesty of the declaration prefixed to the Articles of Religion, and praying therefore the Royal license that convocation may be summoned for the express purpose of vindicating or authoritatively declaring the doctrine of the Church of England on Holy Baptism. There will also be submitted a memorial to the episcopate of the two provinces, including the colonial bishops, as being technically in the province of Canterbury, and an address to the bishops of Scotland expressive of thankfulness and confidence. The day is to open with the celebration of the most solemn ecclesiastical offices in several London churches, and those who purpose

taking part in the meeting will be invited to attend service either at Westminster Abbey or St. Paul's Cathedral. Many of the highest ecclesiastical dignitaries have expressed approval of the proposed course of proceeding, and have intimated their intention of being present at the meeting.—*Times*.

SIX HUNDRED MORE CHURCHES.

The commissioners appointed to inquire into the best mode of subdividing the more densely peopled parishes in England and Wales, in such manner as to prevent the population of any one parish from having more than 4000 souls, have issued their second report, which contains a very startling recommendation. The commissioners state that, from the inquiries they have made, and from the suggestions they have received, they have come to the conclusion that the number of parishes of large populations clearly requiring a new church or churches to be built, and a new parish or parishes to be constituted, is at least six hundred. Then comes the question, how are these six hundred churches to be built? And, when that has been settled, another question equally important is, how are these six hundred churches to be endowed? For, without endowments they would not succeed very well. The total outlay for the whole of the churches is estimated at £2,000,000, one-half of which they expect to raise by local and voluntary contributions, and the rest by the sale of the church livings now at the disposal of the Lord Chancellor.

The number of benefices in the gift of the Lord Chancellor is 754, having an annual value of £190,000. He has also the alternate presentation to twenty-three others, of which the annual value is £7877. But, of these livings, a great number are too small to afford a competent income for a resident incumbent. Six are under £50 annual value; fifty-six are above £50, but under £100; a hundred and twenty-four are above £100, but under £150; and a hundred and forty-four are above £150, but under £200; making a total of 330 inadequately endowed.

"It is obvious," say the commissioners, "that the advowsons of benefices of this description can have no value, as patronage, in the ordinary sense of the word. It is difficult to find persons willing to undertake the charge of cures which entail more than the responsibility, but yield less than the salary, of a curacy. Speaking generally, they are not, and cannot be, sufficiently served, and the spiritual interests of their population are almost necessarily neglected. We are of opinion that these evils might be greatly diminished, so far as the benefices in the gift of the Lord Chancellor are concerned, by offering the right of presentation to persons interested in the welfare of the population resident within these cures, on the condition that the whole purchase-money, or so much of it as would suffice to raise the annual value of the benefice to £200, should be applied to that purpose. This additional endowment would, of course, increase the value of the advowson, and the sum which would be given for it."

By these means the commissioners anticipate that sums considerably exceeding the market value of these poor livings might be obtained, and added to their respective endowments:—

"And if the example so set were, as is not improbable, to be followed to the extent of selling the next presentation by public bodies and private patrons, a vast number of parishes now almost without religious instruction for want of an adequate endowment might be brought within the regular ministrations of the church."

"The direct effect, however, of this proposal would be to place nearly 330 cures of souls now in the gift of the Lord Chancellor, but which are almost useless for spiritual purposes from the insufficiency of their endowment, on a footing to secure to the people resident within their limits all the advantages to be derived from the ministrations of a resident pastor."

With respect to the remaining 447 benefices, which vary from £200 to £1207 in value, the report recommends that so many of them should be sold by private contract as might be necessary to produce the million sterling wanted for the erection of the 600 new churches, for which the commissioners are anxious to provide; the rest they are willing to leave at the disposal of the Great Seal. Ample funds for the endowment of the new parishes thus created might, they think, be eventually derived from the method of dealing with Church leasehold property which is recommended by the Episcopal and Capital Revenues Commission in their recently published report.

LABOURERS AND THE LABOUR MARKET.

The information we have collected this week relates chiefly to the condition of the manufacturing operatives, which, we are glad to see, has considerably improved, whatever Lord Wilton may say to the contrary. We are still at a loss, however, for precise information relating to the condition of the agricultural labourers in many parts of England. We should like to obtain a few particulars relating to the wages they receive now, and also what they were when food was fifty per cent. dearer than it is at present. Are none of the Protectionist journals throughout the kingdom able to supply accurate information on these points?

In Manca Fen the farmers have lately tried to reduce labourers' wages to 1s. 6d. per day, and the men refused

to work; but their wives agreed to do the work, hoeing wheat and other growing crops, at 10d. per day. A party of Irishmen came in the neighbourhood and offered to work for 9d. per day, and the women, refusing to accept less than 10d., were turned off, and the Irishmen set on.—*Lincolnshire Chronicle*.

The *Stafford Mercury* has put forth a very erroneous statement, to the effect that the labourers of this district are well employed at 10s. per week. We wonder that any paper should so misrepresent the present state of the labourers of the Spalding district. So far from this being the case, numbers are without any employment whatever, and of those in constant work, very few, indeed, are getting 10s., the majority 7s. and 8s. This has been ascertained, not from a mere cursory examination of the subject, but by the united testimony of many, both farmers and labourers. One farmer, when questioned upon the subject, said, "three men applied to me yesterday for work, and said they had been several weeks without any employment, excepting a few odd jobs;" another, "I think 10s. much too high to be stated as an average, very few of my neighbours give more than 9s., and many not so much. A great many labourers are without employment."—*Ibid*.

In Macclesfield the mills continue working full time, with the exception of one or two, which have stopped entirely for the present, owing to the relative prices of raw and thrown silks not leaving a sufficient margin to meet wages and expenses.—*Manchester Guardian*.

Hand-loom weaving is moderately brisk throughout Lancashire. The greatest portion of work manufactured in this district consists of fine cotton warp and worsted web. The weavers are in considerably better circumstances than they were two years ago.—*Ibid*.

The export demand continues brisk, and, under the impression that wools and yarns are at the lowest, some contracts have been offered in the market for the autumn home trade. In the lower kinds of hose, straightdowns, &c., there are no stocks on hand, and full employment is general.—*Leicester Mercury*.

THE IRON TRADE.—Trade in the South Staffordshire district continues as dormant as it has been for several months past, with little or no prospect of improvement. The fire-brick trade is also very much depressed, owing in a great measure to the bad state of the iron trade. Many nail-makers are perambulating the streets and neighbourhood of Dudley, Stourbridge, and Netherton, in consequence of the strike to keep up the wages. It appears, from a list of the money-paying and tommy-shop masters and factors in the nail trade in the neighbourhood of Dudley, that out of the eighty-eight nail masters and factors, fifty-eight are tommy or truck dealers, and thirty only pay their workmen in cash!—*Worcester Chronicle*.

THE WOOLLEN TRADE.—Such is the continued improvement in all the branches of trade in Leeds, that the working population are well employed, and in consequence of the cheapness and abundance of the chief necessities of life, they are, generally speaking, in possession of more substantial comforts than they have enjoyed for many years past. The woollen cloth trade, one of the staple trades of the district, has not been in a more healthy state for the last ten years. The manufacturers, dyers, and cloth dressers are regularly and fully employed, the demand for goods being regular and steady, and not fitful and uncertain as heretofore. The cloth halls, instead of being at one time glutted and overcrowded with goods, and at another time emptied as fast as supplied, are now kept moderately stocked. During the last fortnight there have been many strikes at the cloth dressing mills, arising out of a demand for higher wages, and in every instance the advance has been acceded to by the employers.

At the half-yearly meeting of the overseers of Leeds, on Wednesday last, for the purpose of laying a poor's rate for the ensuing six months, it was determined to call for no higher rate than one of 1s. 4d. in the pound—being exactly one-half the amount levied during the five or six half-years preceding the last. Such a fact speaks loudly of the improved condition of our industrious classes, and the readiness with which they seize upon the first opportunity to emerge from a state of pauperism to the condition of independent workmen. From an official table we find that in May, 1848, there were 31,030 out-door paupers relieved, at a cost of £2269 17s. 9d.; in May, 1849, they decreased to 23,530, at an outlay of £1675 19s. 3d.; while in May of the present year, the out-door paupers were less than one-half the number relieved in the first-named period, being 16,745, and the sum expended in their relief was £1186 1s. 5d.—*Leeds Times*.

The turn-out at Unsworth has terminated, and the hands have the same wages promised as they had previous to the strike. The operatives at six mills at Heywood yet remain out. The turn-outs, to the number of about 1000, continue to hold meetings. On Monday afternoon they walked in procession to Unsworth and Whitfield, holding a meeting at the former place.—*Manchester Examiner*.

THE NEEDLE TRADE.—The trade of Redditch is in a most flourishing condition at present, especially in the common descriptions of goods—an article for some time considered as all but lost to the town. The stamper and other classes of workpeople have, we hear, demanded and obtained a very considerable advance in their prices. At Alcester, where these artisans chiefly reside, it is with the greatest difficulty, even with the promise of advanced prices, that parties can be engaged to undertake a given amount of work, where, twelve months ago, almost any quantity could have been produced at a short notice. Many large orders have been necessarily declined by the manufacturers at Redditch, from inability to complete them in time.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

We are sorry to say that the nailers are again on strike in the neighbourhood of Dudley. A meeting was held on Wednesday, attended by several hundred persons. We hear, however, that there is a probability of an amicable

arrangement being come to between masters and men, and that work will shortly be resumed.—*Birmingham Mercury*.

In the township of Monkwearmouth Shore, which for the pressure of local taxation is in this neighbourhood inferior only to the parish of Sunderland, the rate for the relief of the poor this present quarter is only fifteen pence in the pound, being the lowest rate which has been levied ever since ships, stock in trade, and other personal estate ceased, some years ago, to be rateable. In the days of high-priced food rates of one-and-nine-pence, two shillings, half-a-crown, and upwards, used to be disagreeably familiar. To what, except the blessings of cheapness and plenty, can we attribute this gratifying reduction, speaking as it does volumes for the increased comfort and prosperity of the poorer classes?—*Sunderland Herald*.

The sewed muslin trade has made rapid strides westward. There are many villages of Donegal and Sligo, where, two years ago, that employment was only known by name, and scarcely even that, where now there are two, three, or four agents for rival houses, giving out the muslin for the poor girls to work on. Several respectable persons at Longford are very anxious to have the trade introduced there, as there is a great want of employment among the young girls.—*Northern Whig*.

THE SERPENTINE.

A deputation, consisting of Dr. Copeland, Dr. Wilson, Dr. Tilt, Dr. Woolley, and Mr. Letwall, waited on Lord Seymour, on Saturday, to discuss the present condition of the Serpentine. They complained that, notwithstanding the promises given that effectual measures would be taken to render the Serpentine salubrious, it is now in as bad a condition as ever. The supply of water is not sufficient to maintain the loss by evaporation; and, should the summer prove hot and dry, the exhalations from the stagnant water will be most injurious to health. Dr. Woolley, as medical officer to the Royal Humane Society, suggested the importance of doing something to render bathing in the Serpentine less dangerous. Every year several persons lose their lives in it. If bathing is to be allowed there, means should be taken to make it both salubrious and safe. Mr. Letwall urged the importance of increasing the supply of water, so as to cause a constant flow over the cascade at the eastern bridge, and thus carry off the filth now floating on the surface. He was told that the Chelsea Water-works Company had offered to supply four times the present quantity of water, at only twice the present cost.

Lord Seymour agreed that there ought to be a constant stream passing through the Serpentine. The only question was as to the best mode of obtaining the increased supply of water. The falling-off of the supply lately, which had been complained of, was owing to the Artesian well at the Orange-street works being out of order. No time, however, should be lost in procuring the requisite supply of water. As to the cleansing of the Serpentine, and making it more safe for bathers, that must be deferred till the exhibition of 1851 has taken place.

MR. COBDEN AND MR. GARBETT.

The following correspondence appears in the *Times* of Monday:—

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

"Sir,—I shall be obliged by your publishing the following letters. Public men are liable, on public grounds, to be led into a correspondence with persons of infamous character, and such is my present case. One of the most artful devices by which such characters endeavour to escape public exposure is by trying to fasten upon their correspondents the odium of a previous acquaintanceship. I need hardly add that the stories in the accompanying letter are all pure inventions, and that I am prepared to answer the queries in my own letter in the affirmative; and

"I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

"RICHARD COBDEN.
"103, Westbourn-terrace, June 8."

"MR. COBDEN TO MR. GARBETT.

"103, Westbourn-terrace, June 3.
"Sir,—Before I notice your allegations in defence of the character of your friend Captain Aaron Smith, I must request an answer to the following questions:—
"1. Are you the Edmund Garbett (formerly of Wellington, Shropshire), who was last year struck off the rolls for having been implicated in a case of perjury in an affidavit of costs?
"2. Are you the Edmund Garbett who in May, 1847, was convicted of forgery at the Old Bailey, and sentenced to transportation, but was set at liberty on a technical point of law reserved for the decision of the judges?
"I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"MR. E. Garbett.
"RICHARD COBDEN."

"MR. GARBETT TO MR. COBDEN.

"Hatton-hall, near Market Drayton, June 7.
"Sir,—Yours of the 3rd has been forwarded to me here. In your last you pledged yourself, if I proved your statements to be untrue, you would render my friend Captain Aaron Smith justice in your place in Parliament. After five days' consideration, you try to shelter yourself under a paltry subterfuge. Your conduct shows

you to be one of that class who are comprehended in the very significant word of two syllables 'humbag.' First of all, you make a deliberate assertion in your place in Parliament, alleging that a man who is far more respectable than ever Richard Cobden can become is 'an atrocious pirate.' When called upon for an explanation, you have the modesty to ask for a reference as to character. When assailed on the ground of sheltering yourself under the privileges of Parliament, you say you will do justice to an injured man if convinced of his innocence. When furnished with facts and dates, you pen an insulting note as to my character and conduct.

"Ask yourself a question. Does not the 'galled jade,' Richard Cobden, wince?"

"I am that person who in 1844-1845, was your correspondent of the Corn Law League. I am that person who two years ago, at your request, went to Stockport to vote for your friend Francis Duckingfield Palmer Astley; and now, in return, let me ask you, 'Are you' the Richard Cobden whose bills in 1845 were offered me under the firm of Cobden, Brothers, for discount at 40 per cent.?"

"Are you the same person who availed himself of the shelter of Parliament to attack a man behind his back, who afterwards was furnished with data to enable him to ascertain whether or not those attacks are groundless, and who now endeavours to shelter himself under a paltry quibble?"

"I await your answer. Your obedient servant,
"Mr. Richard Cobden. "E. GARRETT."

MR. DELAFIELD'S BANKRUPTCY.

The proceedings in this protracted case have at last been brought to a close. On Tuesday Mr. Commissioner Fane delivered judgment in the Bankruptcy Court, and, in doing so, he gave an outline of Mr. Delafield's career from the time of his going to Oxford until he became bankrupt. It appeared that, during the three years he spent at Oxford, the young man exceeded his income upwards of £3000. On coming of age he was anxious to pay these debts, but as the money left by his uncle was not immediately accessible, he borrowed of the gentleman, who afterwards became petitioning creditor and assignee, under the bankruptcy, £4600, with which he cleared off his debts. The commissioner then quoted the whole of Mr. Delafield's evidence as given in a former examination, and proceeded to reply to the charges brought against him. The first charge was that of reckless expenditure, but what evidence was there to support such a charge? From a statement in the balance sheet it appeared that the whole of his personal expenditure, from November, 1845, to July, 1849, was about £19,000, or at the rate of £5000 a year. This was not a reckless expenditure for a person who had an income of £7000 a year. The next charge was that he had made away with all his remaining property in favour of Mr. Beale, just on the eve of bankruptcy. Into this part of the case, however, he could not well go, as the assignee had deemed it most prudent to settle all questions with Mr. Beale by accepting from that gentleman £1000 in satisfaction of all claims. After a few remarks in extenuation of Delafield's conduct towards the college friend from whom he had borrowed the £4600 to pay the debts he contracted at Oxford, Mr. Fane said:—

"It is insisted that I ought, in granting the certificate, to attach a condition that the bankrupt shall pay 10s. in the pound on his debts, out of future assets, and a decision something to that effect in Lord Huntingtower's case was cited to me. I do not know the exact particulars of that case. I only know that the case was very peculiar. But I confess I have no inclination to attach a condition to a certificate in any case. I refused to do so in Julien's. The world of industry in which we live is one in which every man not living on accumulations is struggling for a subsistence. In that struggle it is difficult enough for any one to win his way, even with character clear and something to begin with. What, then, may be expected to be the fate of one who not only begins with nothing, but is weighed down by the stain of bankruptcy, and by an unpaid debt of 10s. in the pound on £33,000? I see nothing for a person so burdened but to lie down in hopeless despair, and abandon all future exertion. Were the faults of this bankrupt far greater than they are, I would not condemn him to such a fate. It may be said that this bankrupt has rich relations. Perhaps he has; but, if it were true, this argument is one which will never weigh with me. I will never be a party to the establishment of any such doctrine as that rich relations are under any obligation to pay the debts of extravagant connections. A contrary doctrine is a far more wholesome one. It is far better to lay it down that no creditor shall have any means of pressure, direct or indirect, upon rich relations, and thus check the giving credit to the young and foolish. It is the too great prevalence of this credit which in the long run leads to the establishment of laws which, though intended to check the unwholesome credit only which is given to the idle, such as that given in Lord Huntingtower's case, and again in this, have a tendency to impede that wholesome credit which, by enabling struggling industry to exercise its calling, is the source of public wealth. And for whose benefit am I to impose this burden? For that of the assignee or for that of the general body of creditors? If for the assignee, I answer that he knew at the time he lent the money that he was lending to a spendthrift, that the money was to pay for past or provide for future extravagance. Why should the law go out of its way to aid such lenders? They are public enemies. They foster extravagance, encourage

idleness, and disturb the happiness of families. Even those who advance money to enable others to educate themselves or go into business must submit to the loss of what they have lent, if circumstances turn out unfavourable, and if this be the fate of those who advance money for praiseworthy purposes, why should it not be the fate of those who advance money to supply extravagance? Surely, the loss of what has been so lent is a not inappropriate punishment for persons who thus interfere between the young and their natural advisers and protectors. But it may be said that I ought to impose this condition for the benefit of the other creditors. To that I answer that I do not believe that there is even one who wishes it. I have now been engaged twenty-five years in administering the law of bankruptcy, and in that time I have observed that the most marked feature in the conduct of creditors, as a body, towards debtors, is an unwillingness to press harshly on the fallen, and I doubt not that is the feeling which pervades the body of creditors in this case. At all events, not one has appeared to make the slightest personal complaint against him; but, if a contrary feeling did prevail, I should not yield to it, for I look upon the general body of creditors in this case as co-speculators with the bankrupt; and, as the speculation has been a total failure, and the greatest sufferer, all ought to bear their share of the misfortune without repining. On the whole, I think, upon full consideration of all the circumstances, that I shall best discharge my public duty by granting the bankrupt a common certificate, without attaching any condition to it. I hope that the terrible lesson he has received may be useful to him in after-life."

A FOOTMAN IN LOVE WITH HIS MISTRESS.

Richard Mac Allister, described in the police reports as "rather shabbily attired," but of whose personal appearance no particulars are given, was brought before Mr. Broughton, at Marylebone Police Office, on Monday, on a charge of having been found near the premises of Miss Bellew, Stockley-house, Primrose-hill, "for an unlawful purpose." The evidence given, however, was not sufficient to sustain this charge. All that could be made out was, that he had been seen in the vicinity of Miss Bellew's house on several occasions, and that when asked to "move on" by the policeman, he had said that he would stay there as long as he pleased. Subsequently he said that Miss Bellew owed him £2. Two years ago he had been brought up at the same court on a similar charge, and in default of his finding sureties to keep the peace was imprisoned for six months. According to the prisoner's own statement to the policeman, Miss Bellew had promised to marry him while he was in her service as footman, and "if he had not been a — fool, he should have married her then and there." But he had become jealous of another person, and that was the reason of his leaving her service. When questioned by the magistrate Mac Allister affirmed Miss Bellew made a positive engagement to become his wife, and assured him that nothing else could ever make her happy. After he left her service she sent a Miss Martin, an upholsteress, who had been working in the house, to say that if he would come back she would make him as comfortable as possible, and that he should not be required to wear livery any longer, from which he naturally inferred that she intended to marry him. More especially as he was informed by Miss Martin that she had been told by that lady, "in her dressing room," that "he might have made a gentleman of himself if he had not been a fool."

On the other hand Miss Bellew declared most solemnly that there was not a word of truth in what "the creature" had stated. Her evidence, which was given under much excitement, was not very encouraging to Mac Allister's pretensions.

She said:—For the last three years I have lived in terror of my life through this creature (looking at defendant), and I dismissed him from my service in consequence of improper conversation used by him in the kitchen. This time two years he attempted to seize me and drag me from my carriage on my return from Epsom races, and he declared that my carriage and horses were his, and the house also.—Mr. Broughton: Has he ever said anything to you personally about marriage?—Miss Bellew: No.—Mr. Broughton: Why do you consider that you go in fear of your life?—Miss Bellew (hastily): Why do you ask me this question?—I think I have good reason to be so.—Mr. Broughton: Be a little calm, ma'am, if you please. I ask you distinctly why you now go in fear of defendant, he having already undergone imprisonment? What has since occurred to make you really frightened at the present time?—Miss Bellew: Last Saturday, while I was giving instructions to my gardener, I saw the most horrid countenance I ever beheld.—Mr. Broughton: Is the defendant the person you saw?—Miss Bellew: Yes, that creature there. He grinned at me like a maniac. I and my family are all in danger, and we expect to be shot. It's very hard that, paying so much for rent and taxes, I can't be protected.—Mr. Broughton: I don't think you have any reason to complain of want of protection; the police have constantly been watching the defendant, and he has been long imprisoned for a former annoyance. Do you owe the defendant anything?—Miss Bellew (emphatically): Not one farthing, sir, I assure you. He has been in the service of Mrs. Tyrell, in Primrose-terrace, and, owing to some mad acts which he committed there, he was once removed from the house by a policeman.—Defendant: She owes me £2, your worship, and it's for board wages.—Mr. Broughton: If what you say be true, why not apply to the County Court?—Defendant: I have done so, but, as I didn't wish to expose Miss Bellew, I withdrew the proceedings.

Charlotte Skinner, the lady's-maid, stated that while Mr. Allister was footman to Miss Bellew, she had heard him say that he was about to marry a daughter of the Countess of Westmeath, but that having met Miss Bellew in the Park he had fallen in love with her, and would marry no one else. For this presumptuous speech and "other observations" which were repeated to his mistress, he was dismissed from her service.

Mr. Broughton said he should require the defendant to find bail, himself in £50, and two sureties of £25 each, for his keeping the peace and being of good behaviour towards Miss Bellew for one month. The lady did not seem at all satisfied at her troublesome follower having been secured for a month only.

AN EGYPTIAN MUMMY.

A large party of noblemen and gentlemen, consisting for the most part of Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, assembled at Lord Lonsborough's mansion in Piccadilly on Monday afternoon, for the purpose of witnessing the interesting process of unrolling a mummy which had been recently brought from Thebes by Mr. Arden. The specimen was a very perfect one, and the richness of the case, with its gold embellishments and hieroglyphical characters, led to the belief that the investigation of the body would reveal certain peculiarities not commonly met with in mummies of Egyptian preparation. The inscription on the external surface of the case was read thus, "Anchsenhesi," or "She who lives by Isis," thus at once determining the sex of the individual.

Mr. Birch, previous to the ceremony of the denudation of the body, read a short historical sketch, based upon the authority of Herodotus and Diodorus Siculus, but corrected by modern investigation and research, of the system adopted by the Egyptians in the complicated and expensive process of preserving their dead.

The dusty labour of stripping off the family rags from this very brittle and bituminous old lady occupied the anxious antiquaries for nearly an hour, during which time many speculations were hazarded as to the result of the examination, for it happens frequently that nothing beyond the materials used in the process are found enrolled with the body. The first discovery was that of the dorsal strap of leather extending in a chevron shape from the nape of the neck to the lower part of the ribs, the lateral extremities being broader, and inscribed with certain characters descriptive of the family or individual rank, &c., of the deceased. These pieces were carefully preserved, but they did not appear to be of sufficient extent to lead to any important result. Presently after, a roll of papyrus was brought to light, inscribed with portions of the Egyptian ritual. The body being exposed, and the planch incision laid bare, the tin plate covering it was removed, and some further careful exploration revealed a very unusual feature—namely, a silver plate, inscribed with an eye, symbolical of the sun, over the region of the heart. The hands on removal proved to have been prepared with great care, all the fingers being encased in silver previous to the application of the coating of bitumen. The figure Hapi or Apis was also found enveloped in linen bandages between the legs, and some grains of wheat were gathered from the folds of the mummy. The black process had been used, and, from the abundant rolls, as well as from the objects above enumerated, it was thought that the lady thus unceremoniously broken up to gratify the curiosity of modern antiquaries was one of wealth and rank, who lived from one thousand to twelve hundred years before Christ, or about three thousand years ago.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen and the rest of the Royal Family still remain at Osborne. On Sunday morning her Majesty and Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, and the Princess Royal, accompanied by the Royal suite, attended divine service at Whippingham Church. On Wednesday the Duchess of Kent and the Prince of Leiningen left Osborne.

The Queen and Prince Albert, with the royal suite, will leave Osborne for London, on Tuesday afternoon. On Wednesday, her Majesty will hold a Privy Council at Buckingham-palace, and it is said that the Commissioners will then be appointed for the custody of the Great Seal, rendered necessary by the retirement of the Earl of Cottenham.

Lord John Russell left his residence, at Richmond-park, on Thursday morning, for the Kingston station, travelling by the London and South-Western Railway, en route to Osborne, on a visit to the Queen.

The Marquis of Westminster has caused invitations to be issued, by command of her Majesty, for state balls (full dress) on the 26th instant, and the 10th of July; and for concerts (frock dress) on the 1st and 15th of July.

The *Cork Examiner* states that a Killarney correspondent, giving for his authority a gentleman officially connected with the Government, says that it is the intention of her Majesty and Prince Albert to visit Cork on the 2nd of August, for the purpose of witnessing the regatta; and such ground has the report gained, that, in expectation of the auspicious event, and of a royal sojourn for a few days in Killarney, "parties high in office have already engaged apartments in one of the principal suburban hotels" of that town.

There are over 300 men, of all arts and trades, &c., at present employed in making very extensive improvements in and about Lismore Castle. It is beyond doubt that her Majesty intends to honour the good and noble duke with a visit at his Irish residence on the first occasion of her coming to this country.—*Waterford Mail*.

The materials of several buildings in the immediate neighbourhood of Holyrood Palace, were sold on Tuesday, and operations for their removal were commenced on Wednesday. The alterations and improvements in the apartments in the palace for the reception of her Majesty, on her visit in autumn, are proceeding with vigour and activity. They are more of the character of repairs and necessary decorations than of any material change in the structure itself.—*Scotsman*.

Monsieur and Madame Thiers, accompanied by Madame and the two Mademoiselles Dosne, arrived at Mivart's Hotel from Paris on Thursday. In the evening, shortly after the House of Lords had met, M. Thiers entered by one of the peers' doors near the throne, accompanied by Sir Edward Ellis. The French ex-minister seemed to be in high health and spirits, and maintained an animated conversation with several peers and commoners who joined him. Lord Palmerston, who appeared to have been apprised of the presence of the French states-

man, entered hastily, and, after a cordial greeting on both sides, they remained in lively conversation for some minutes. Presently Lord Brougham made his way down to the Throne, and after him the Marquis of Lansdowne, both of whom shook hands with M. Thiers with the utmost apparent heartiness. The historian of the "Consulate and the Empire" remained only for a short time in the House, but during his brief stay he appeared to have eyes for every member present and every feature of their lordships' noble hall.—*Morning Chronicle*.

The Marquis of Salisbury, as lord-lieutenant of the county of Middlesex, gave a grand entertainment on Saturday at his mansion in Arlington-street, to a very numerous body of noblemen and gentlemen in the commission of the peace for that county, and to the colonel and officers of the county militia.

The inhabitants of Edinburgh intend to take advantage of the presence of Lord Gough in Edinburgh in August, on his way to his shooting-quarters at Corriemoney, Inverness-shire, to invite him to a public entertainment, at which the Lord Provost is to preside.

The Earl of Balcarres, who last year established his claim to the Earldom of Crawford, in the Peerage of Scotland, and whose title in that peerage is now "the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres," though his lordship sits in the House of Peers only as Baron Wigan, has presented a petition to her Majesty, praying that he may be declared and adjudged to be entitled to the ancient honour and dignity of Duke of Montrose. The petition has been referred to the committee for privileges.

A rector in one of the midland counties lately sent a letter to the Duke of Wellington, begging a subscription towards the restoration and repair of his church. "F. M. the Duke," in declining to give anything, says:—"There is not a church, chapel, glebe-house, school, or even a pagoda, built from the North to the South Pole, or within the utmost limits of the earth, to which he is not called upon to contribute." Immediately upon receipt of the epistle the rector was offered five guineas for the autograph, which he readily accepted, entering the amount in his subscription-list, as the Duke of Wellington's contribution to the fund.

It is stated, in reference to the Lincoln divorce case, that there was a temporary separation before the Countess set out for Germany, and, indeed, before the birth of the last child born in this country; and the overture for a reconciliation was made by the Countess, who returned suddenly to her husband's house. The reconciliation was complete; but another estrangement followed, and, it seems, with a final result.

With regret we hear that Mr. Samuel Rogers met with a very severe accident on Thursday night week, on his return home from dining with a friend. Mr. Rogers was knocked down by a cab in crossing the street, and has ever since continued in such danger as to cause very serious alarm to his numerous friends and admirers.

Mr. Beaumont Coles, in returning from the House of Commons yesterday morning week, was knocked down by a carriage and so severely injured by the horses and the wheel passing over his head, and by several contusions of the body and fracturing the left arm, that he will not be able to attend his Parliamentary duties for some time.

The late fine weather has set in motion whole legions of tourists in the vicinity of the lakes of Cumberland. A party spent Wednesday night and part of Thursday at the Strands Inn, Netherwasdale, some of whom passed over the rugged steeps of Hardnot and Wynrose, in a gig, from Ambleside. Miss Martineau and Douglas Jerrold were of the number.—*Newcastle Journal*.

Mr. W. H. Prescott, the historian, arrived from the United States at Mivart's Hotel, last week.

Fanny Kemble (late Mrs. Butler) is said to meditate returning to England in September, with the intention of giving a series of dramatic readings.

The celebrated authoress, Miss Jane Porter, whose death occurred last week, was born in Durham. Her mother was a Miss Blenkinsop, the daughter of a member of the choir of the cathedral, whose grave and tombstone are in the burial-yard attached to St. Oswald's church. Mr. Porter, father of the lady, was interred in the same church-yard.—*Durham Advertiser*.

Mr. James Smith, of Deanston, the celebrated agriculturist, was found dead in bed, on Monday morning, at the house of his cousin, Mr. Buchanan, of Catrie, in Ayrshire. He was born at Glasgow, on the 3rd of January, 1789, and was consequently in his sixty-second year. There is no man of the present day to whom agriculture owes so much.

Mr. Richard Wyatt, the eminent English sculptor, died at Rome on the 29th of May, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, after a few days' illness, and was buried in the Protestant burial-ground. He went to Rome in 1822, and, for some years, worked for Mr. Gibson. Since he commenced his career he is said to have executed commissions to the extent of £20,000.

A commission under a writ of *habeas corpus* inquiring into the conduct of the Reverend Herbert Charles Marsh, son of the late Bishop of Peterborough, Rector of Barnack, near Stamford, and prebendary of the cathedral church of Peterborough, is of unsound mind, incapable of managing himself and his affairs, and has been so since February, 1850.

Mr. Daniel O'Connell has been appointed Consul at Para, in Brazil, in the room of Mr. Richard Ryan, deceased. Mr. W. Whalley Bilyard, has been appointed Crown Solicitor for Civil Business in New South Wales.

The *Leinster Express* publishes, on the authority of a private letter from Liverpool, that a sailor, arrived lately from Sydney, reports that two days before he sailed an account was received there of the death of Mr. Smith O'Brien.

The Prince of Prussia, accompanied by his nephew, Prince Frederick Charles, has proceeded to St. Petersburg, on a visit to the empress. The sojourn of his Royal Highness the Prince of Prussia in the Russian capital will, it is understood, not exceed fourteen days.

The banns between the Crown Prince of Sweden and the Princess Louisa were published on Sunday week at the palace chapel, for the first time. The Princess is to land at the park on the 15th, and remain at Castle Haga till the 19th, when she will make her entry into Stockholm.

Prince and Princess Frederick of the Netherlands, with their illustrious daughters, Princess Louisa and Maria, quitted the Hague last Friday morning, by special train, for Amsterdam, en route for Stockholm.

The *Madrid Gazette* of June 2nd, publishes a Royal decree appointing the persons who are to be present at the accouchement of the Queen. They are:—The Ministers and chief officers of the Palace; a deputation from each of the Legislative Chambers; a deputation from the Grandees of Spain; the Captains-General of the army and the navy, with some twelve other persons, all of them to appear in uniform.

The King and Queen of Sardinia arrived at Turin on the 1st of June, on their return from Savoy. The Duchess of Genoa has inaugurated her arrival at Turin by instituting ten free places in the military college of Kaeconigi, in favour of the sons of military men who fell in the late campaigns.

Letters from Genoa state that the Grand Duke of Tuscany has expressed his determination to abdicate, and retire to his estates in Bohemia.

On the 1st of next month the King and Queen of Greece, attended by a numerous suite, intend to make a tour through the provinces. They intend at first to visit some of the islands in the Greek Archipelago. The Austrian Chargé d'Affaires has placed the Marianna war-steamer at the service of their Majesties.

M. Diaz Martinez, who challenged the President of the Council to fight a duel, has been condemned to reside for twenty-six months at a distance from Madrid and from Seville; he must not come within fifteen leagues of Madrid, and must pay all the expenses incurred.

Mr. Judd, the envoy from the Sandwich Islands, who came to Paris to demand an indemnity from the French Government for the damage done to the fortifications of Honolulu by the French squadron, and the capture and detention of several steamers, has left without having succeeded in his mission, except that both parties have accepted the "good offices" of the English Government.

By order of the President of the French Republic a statue in bronze is to be erected to M. Gay Lussac. It will be placed in the neighbourhood of one of the amphitheatres where he gave lectures.

The Paris papers state that "the baby-linen, cradle, &c., of the future heir to the throne of Spain, have just left for Madrid. They are contained in twelve cases. The cradle is said to have cost 142,000fr."

M. Wallon, professor of modern history at the College de France, and member of the Assembly for the department du Nord, has resigned his parliamentary seat on account of his difference with the majority on the electoral law.

The commissioners, to whom the custody of the Great Seal is to be entrusted on the resignation of Lord Cottenham, will be the Master of the Rolls (Lord Langdale), the Vice-Chancellor of England (Sir Launcelot Shadwell), and Baron Rolfe. This will be following exactly the precedent of 1835, when the Master of the Rolls (Sir C. Pepys), the Vice-Chancellor, and Baron Bosanquet, were the commissioners. Their tenure of the Great Seal lasted from the 24th of April, 1835, up to the commencement of Hilary Term, 1836, when Sir C. Pepys was appointed Chancellor. The present commission, it is understood, will be of very short duration, and will not be protracted beyond the time necessary for maturing the arrangements for regulating the office of Lord Chancellor, which are already known to be under consideration.

The Oxford Commemoration, on Wednesday, passed off with fewer demonstrations of outrageous noise and interruption of the proper business of the day, than is customary. General Gough was received with the most tumultuous and enthusiastic applause, and the reception of Major Edwardes was not less enthusiastic. The leading subjects of Oxford aversion, as manifested in the regular undergraduate fashion, were, "The University Commission," "Lord John Russell," "Sir Robert Peel," and "Lord Palmerston." The honorary degree of Doctor in Civil Law was conferred on General Viscount Gough, late Commander-in-chief of the forces in India; Major Herbert Benjamin Edwardes; Major Henry C. Rawlinson; the Hon. Sir Edward Hall Alderson; and John Ayrton Paris, M.D., President of the College of Physicians.

It is expected that the grand banquet which we recently stated would be given in York, by the mayors of the United Kingdom, to the Lord Mayor of London, and to which Prince Albert will be invited, will take place on some day between the 5th and the 12th of August.—*York Herald*.

A public meeting was held in Sackville-street, Piccadilly, on Wednesday, for the purpose of taking steps to raise a fund in honour of the memory of the late Queen Adelaide, to be applied to the relief of orphan daughters of naval and marine officers.

On Saturday the second fete of the season took place at the Horticultural Society's gardens, Chiswick, and was attended by a very large number of visitors. The weather towards the latter part of the afternoon was extremely fine, and the morning's rain having imparted a freshness to the trees and shrubs, the gardens were seen to great advantage. In the course of the afternoon the attractions of the day were increased by the arrival of the Nepalese Ambassador and his suite, whose rich and striking costumes were well adapted to the gaiety of the scene.

About ten days ago the beautiful male chetah, or hunting leopard, lately presented to the Zoological

Society of London by the Pasha of Egypt, happened to thrust one of its hind legs between the bars of its den, and in its violence to get it released sustained a severe compound fracture of the limb. Professor Simmonds, of the Royal Veterinary College at Camden-town, was consulted on the subject, and as the nature of the accident would apparently render all attempts to save the leg ineffectual and hopeless, amputation half way down the thigh was decided on, as the only means of preserving the animal's life. This operation was performed on Monday last by Professor Simmonds. Previous to undergoing the operation the animal was made to inhale chloroform by applying to its mouth and nostrils a sponge moistened with that liquid and fastened to the end of a stick. Its dislike to this part of the process was very loudly expressed. It, however, soon fell under the influence of the chloroform, which evidently rendered it totally insensible to suffering, as it lay perfectly motionless and quiet during the operation and until its removal from the operating table to some clean hay in its den, when it speedily revived and moved about on its remaining three legs as though nothing had occurred. The last bulletin stated the patient to be going on as well as can be expected.

The construction of the iron dome of the International Exhibition-hall, though of light sheet iron, will be no joke. We may remind the reader that it will be double the size of our St. Paul's dome, which is 112 feet in diameter. The dome of St. Peter's, at Rome, is 130 feet in diameter; and that of the Pantheon, 192 feet. This central hall will be a polygon of 16 sides, four of which will open into gardens reserved around it. Its main walls will be of brick, and about 60 feet high.—*The Builder*.

The floating of the third tube of the Britannia Bridge commenced on Monday morning soon after seven o'clock, under the directions of Captain Claxton, and was finally completed about twenty minutes to ten, in the most successful manner.

Mr. Berghell, of Port Natal, has gone to Manchester to deliver a lecture in the Chamber of Commerce there, on the capabilities of Natal as a cotton-growing country.

Mr. Slight (Clerk to the Commissioners) has negotiated a loan of £60,000 for the purchase of the Pavilion estate. The lenders are the Bank of England, and the rate of interest four per cent. As soon as the necessary legal steps for completing the loan have been taken, the palace grounds will be thrown open to the public.—*Brighton Gazette*.

A new means of communication between Paris and London has lately come into operation, by which the closing prices at the Bourse at two o'clock in the afternoon have been obtained here in the short space of one hour. From Paris to Calais the electric telegraph is the medium employed, while from Calais to Dover pigeons are put in requisition, the crossing of which in favourable weather occupies no more than half an hour, and of course the communication is continued from Dover to London by the electric telegraph.

The hippopotamus appears to be one of the chief lions of London at present. Upwards of 4000 visitors were admitted to view it on Saturday at the Zoological Gardens. The visitors on Monday exceeded 8000; and even on Sunday, when the admission is exclusively limited to fellows and their friends, the crowd was so great that some difficulty was found in making arrangements for their passage through the house in which the hippopotamus bath is placed.

A remarkably beautiful elephant which has been purchased for the Royal Surrey Zoological Gardens, was landed from the Trafalgar East Indian on Monday.

Considerable surprise was created in the city on Wednesday by the announcement of alleged extensive frauds on the customs in the article of coffee. The parties were brought up before the Thames Police Court, and liberated on heavy bail. Immediately on this becoming known prompt enquiries were made in other quarters on the same subject, and it is understood that a searching investigation will be gone into on the matter.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Mr. Sibley, a schoolmaster at Highgate, while walking to Hampstead with his pupils, on Saturday forenoon, saw a youth drowning in one of the ponds near the Lower Heath, and rushed into the water to assist him. In the attempt to save the lad he became so faint that he also sank. It was sixteen minutes before his body was recovered, so that life was totally extinct. Mrs. Sibley had gone to meet her husband, and the announcement of his death having been abruptly made to her, the shock nearly deprived her of reason.

As the 2 p.m. up-train from Southampton was passing near the Wimbledon cross-gates, on Saturday, one Kemp, traveller to a coal-agent, placed himself in front of the engine, and was killed on the spot. The guard of the down-train avers that the same man attempted to get in front of his train, but it passed by before he could get on the rails.

Four young men were returning from a pleasure trip to Bowness in a small rowboat with a "lug" sail hoisted on Sunday evening. After having called at Lowwood Hotel, and proceeded for a short distance, a squall struck the frail boat, which immediately upset and precipitated the whole of the party into the water. Two of them were saved and two drowned.

The town of Sherborne was thrown into a state of great alarm on Friday by the overflowing of the River Brue, caused by a thunderstorm. The river began to rise soon after five in the afternoon, and in a short time it had flooded the adjacent streets to a height of six feet. Many of the inhabitants were forced to take refuge in the upper stories, and fears were at one time entertained that the water would even reach them there, but fortunately it began to subside, after having gone up a few steps. Articles of furniture of all descriptions were

swept away; a number of cattle and pigs were drowned, and other damage sustained by the inhabitants.

On Wednesday week the house of Mrs. Harriet Stoner, of Birdford, Sussex, was entered and robbed by six young men, all of whom were masked, and all except one disguised with shirts over their ordinary clothing. Two of the villains seized Mrs. Stoner, and held her down in the passage, each of them presenting a pistol at her head, with terrible imprecations, threatening her life unless she surrendered her money. She gave them her pocket, in which were two canvas bags, containing about £12 in gold and silver, and they immediately made off.—*Sussex Express.*

Joseph Ady has at length been stopped in his system of extortion by the Post-office authorities. Within the last few months Joseph has been mulcted in the double postage of some 4000 letters, which he had sent to various parties, and which have been returned to the Post-office. Although time was allowed him to pay the penalties, on a promise to discontinue his malpractices, he has, nevertheless, continued to send letters through the Post-office in as great numbers as ever, until Friday last, when an officer of the City effected his capture, and consigned to Giltspur-street Prison, on a warrant from the Treasury. It appears he is utterly incapable to pay the Post-office demands, and he has no chance of being liberated, excepting by petitioning the Crown officers. He is in his seventy-sixth year.

A man named John Reynolds, who had been living apart from his wife for some time, met her at North Drance, Norfolk, on Thursday evening week, and, after some conversation, attempted to cut her throat with a clasp knife. The woman resisted, and he, after inflicting one wound on the neck, and several in other parts of her body, stuck the knife into his own throat, and then jumped into the sea, where he was drowned. A coroner's inquest was held, at which a verdict of "Felo de se" was returned, and the body was buried by torch-light.

Edward Edwards, a farmer, residing at Rhoscellan-fawr, near Aberystwith, a bachelor, about forty-five years of age, of a curious and eccentric character, who is described as "following the magic art of divination or conjuring, and a frequenter of some of the most depraved resorts," attended the May fair, held on the 14th ultimo, and from thence until the 30th nothing whatever was heard of him, notwithstanding the eager enquiries of his relatives, until that day, when about ten o'clock in the forenoon, his dead body was discovered in the River Reiddol, near the new pier at Aberystwith, with such marks of violence on it as led to the belief that he died in consequence of them. Four young men, viz.—Morris Lewis, William Jones, John Rogers, and Enoch Jones, and a depraved woman, named Elizabeth Jones, alias Betsy Williams, are in custody charged with the murder.

In anticipation of Mr. Fagan's speedy retirement from Parliament, Mr. Sergeant Murphy has already entered the field as the Whig candidate for the representation of Cork.

The Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, has unanimously decided against quashing the return to the mandamus, which set forth that the office of Lord Mayor was full. The Lord Chief Justice, in pronouncing judgment, took occasion to declare that there was no ground for the allegations that the course pursued by the majority of the town council in making this return had been illegal, illusory, or unwarrantable. The effect of this decision will be to confirm Mr. Reynolds in the office of Lord Mayor until November next. The Conservative party have the right to demur, but the demurrer could not be argued until November term; and the New Municipal Act expressly provides that the person who shall be in office as Lord Mayor on the last of November next (when the present corporation will be legally abolished), is to continue as chief magistrate until New Year's-day, when the new corporation is to commence its functions. It is a settled point, then, that Mr. Reynolds is to be Lord Mayor for the remainder of the present year.

The Ulster meeting on the subject of tenant-right took place in Belfast, on Thursday. The meeting, which consisted chiefly of farmers, commenced at twelve, and did not close until seven in the evening. The leading points in the resolutions were—"The rights of the tenantry to the benefit of all their own improvements, past, present, and future; the right of the tenantry, founded on their ancient custom, to a continued occupation of their lands, at a fair rent, as contradistinguished from a rack-rent; and the hearty approval of the meeting given to the proposed tenant-right conference in Dublin, and especially to the formation of a tenant league for all Ireland." It is stated that the Presbyterian and Roman Catholic clergymen met in brotherhood on the platform, and that amongst the movers and seconders of the resolutions were ten Presbyterian, two Roman Catholic clergymen, and ten laymen.

The committee have fixed upon the 6th of August next for the assembly of the tenant right conference in Dublin. Representatives from all parts of Ireland are to attend.

The Belfast and Cork Colleges have concluded their first session, and the results appear very satisfactory. The Northern Whig states that the prizemen in Belfast include members of the Established and Roman Catholic Churches, Presbyterians of the General Assembly, Non-subscribing Presbyterians, Methodists, and Independents. Sir Robert Kane, President of the Cork College, in his address at the close of the adjudication, stated that, "During the entire session, the council had not had to take into official consideration a single case of misconduct or breach of discipline."

The accounts from Cork, Limerick, Kilkenny, and most of the other chief towns throughout Ireland, state that new potatoes, of the finest quality, are already making their appearance in considerable quantities in the markets, and not the least trace of disease is to be observed.

The town of Killarney was posted last week with bills announcing a sheriff's sale to take place at Derrynane Abbey. The sale was to be at the suit of some half-dozen creditors, and the sheriff's name appended to the placard was "O'Connell!" At the Repeal Association meeting, on Monday, the amount of rent announced for the week was only £4 19s. 8d. The melancholy farce which has been playing there lately is now very near a close.

Timothy Kelly, a footman, passing along Albert Quay, Dublin, on Monday morning, about ten o'clock, observed a female plunge headlong into the River Liffey, when, without a moment's hesitation, he plunged in after her, and succeeded in bringing her to the surface, where he held her up until a ladder was lowered by the side of the quay wall, which the young man mounted with the woman whose life he had saved.

There are no complete accounts yet concerning the election for the Bas Rhin, but, such as they are, they are altogether favourable to M. Émile de Girardin. The following is said to be the state of the poll, on the best authority:—E. de Girardin (Socialist), 30,000; M. Muller (Conservative), 21,000; M. Leichtenberger (Republican), 10,000.

The prefect of police, Carlier, has addressed a circular to the commissaries of police of Paris and the banlieue, enjoining them to take vigorous measures for the expulsion, and escort by gendarmerie to the frontiers of France, of all foreigners found implicated in political intrigues.

In the National Assembly on Monday, M. Pierre Leroux amused the Chamber a good deal by informing it that there was in existence a work called "Telemachus," which he had read to a child the other day, and in which they would find an excellent defence of Socialism.

Notwithstanding the prohibition of the Prefect of the Gard, a bull-fight took place a few days ago in the commune of Generac, and a man named Giménard was struck under the chin by the horn of one of the animals, and killed on the spot, and another man had such a violent fall that he broke his leg.—*Galignani.*

A dreadful accident occurred on Monday near Melun, on the railroad from Paris to Lyons. Madame Brueure, daughter-in-law of Baron St. James, travelling in the coupé of the diligence, was burnt to death before assistance could be afforded. The cause is attributed to some lucifer matches that had been left in the carriage.

Between nine and ten o'clock on Wednesday evening, the promenaders on the boulevards and the quays in Paris saw all at once the northern part of the sky brilliantly illuminated by a meteor, and at the same time the same phenomenon was observed at Rouen, Boulogne-sur-Mer, and other places.—*Galignani.*

Two English fishing boats were seized and taken into Havre two days ago by the French Government cutter the Myrmidon, for fishing for oysters in the part of the coast prohibited to English fishermen.

In consequence of the evident impossibility of raising a body-guard for the Pope by voluntary enlistment in Spain, his Holiness has informed the Spanish Government that it is his intention to abandon the scheme.

The *Risorgimento* of Turin of the 3rd announces that Monsignor Franzoni, Archbishop of that city, was set at liberty on the preceding day, the period of his imprisonment having expired.

The *Milan Gazette* of the 2nd states that the telegraphic wires which are being set up in the Lombardo-Venetian provinces and Tyrol have been cut in several places.

Private letters from Palermo state that another insurrectionary movement took place in the neighbourhood of that city on the 18th ultimo, when the military were ordered out, and, after a smart conflict, the insurgents were routed. Five persons of the neighbourhood were taken up, but afterwards released, their innocence being evident. A rumour was current that a movement was to have taken place at daybreak on the 19th in Palermo itself.

There are in the prisons of Naples at present no less than forty thousand political prisoners, and the opinion is that, from the crowded state of the gaols, the greater number of these prisoners will go mad, become idiots, or die.

The *Austrian Lloyds* of Vienna states that a society of English capitalists has offered to the Ottoman Government to establish railways from Constantinople to the sea and to Salonica.

The Hamburg Constituent Assembly is to be dissolved; the motion to be made in the Senate on the 10th to that effect has been published.

In the principalities of Hohenzollern the Prussian constitution has been proclaimed, and the oath of fidelity to it taken by all the officials.

The progress which the cholera has made in Prague is beginning to be fearful. Twenty-seven persons died of this epidemic on the 26th ult., and among them several highly-esteemed men in the upper circles.

The Cape Town papers publish the heads of a petition which was to be proposed to the inhabitants for adoption at a public meeting announced for the 23rd of April. It prays for a single legislature for the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and for a suffrage to be based on the occupancy of a tenement worth £50.

Her Majesty's schooner *Bernuda* has captured and taken into Port Royal a Brazilian slaver with 250 slaves.

MR. AND MRS. W. H. SEGUIN'S CONCERT.—On Friday morning these talented vocalists assembled a large audience at the Hanover square Rooms at their annual concert. They were assisted by some of our most favourite concert-room artists in the vocal department; and, amongst the instrumentalists, M. Thalberg contributed his powerful aid in two of his most popular fantasias.

POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15.

LORD BROUGHAM made a long speech to a most inattentive audience in the House of Lords, last evening, on the necessity for certain measures of reform in the Court of Chancery. He referred to his own labours when Lord Chancellor, which seriously injured his health, in order to show that something ought to be done for the relief of the holder of the Great Seal. The present arrangement for doing the work of that office was only temporary, and he would suggest that advantage should be taken of the opportunity to mature some plan by which the business of the Court of Chancery might be efficiently conducted. Throughout the whole of his speech the Peers kept talking to each other, as if no one had been addressing them, to the great provocation of Lord Brougham, who rebuked them several times for their uncourtous behaviour.

The Encumbered Estates Ireland Bill passed through committee on the motion of Lord WESTMEATH, who gave notice that he would move the third reading on Tuesday next, when their lordships could discuss the amendments.

The House having gone into committee on the Australian Colonies Bill, clauses 26, 27, 28, and 29 were agreed to. On clause 30, which gives power to her Majesty, by an order in council, to establish a General Assembly for the Australian colonies on the petition of two or more of the Colonial Legislative Councils, LORD STANLEY, after briefly recapitulating the reasons which induced him to oppose this part of the measure, moved as an amendment the omission of this clause and those which depended on it up to the 34th clause inclusive.

EARL GREY opposed the amendment, which after some discussion was negatived by a majority of one. The numbers being—

For, 22—Against, 23.

The clause was then agreed to, as were the remaining clauses, and their Lordships resumed.

The amendments in the Factory Bill came under discussion in the House of Commons last evening. The first were those of LORD ASHLEY, who moved certain alterations, with a view to provide that no child under thirteen years of age should be employed before six o'clock in the morning, nor after six at night. Unless these amendments were carried, the children would be in a relatively worse position than they were before. He considered that five o'clock was too early an hour for children to go to work, and that half-past eight was too late to keep them at it.

SIR G. GREY contended that, as the law stood, the labour of the children could never be excessive, for they were only called on to work for seven hours in one particular case, and six and a half in another; that was to say, there were to be two sets of children, who were to divide the thirteen and a half hours between them. The effect of the proposition of the noble Lord was to restrict that time.

MR. AGLIOSBY considered the whole question as re-opened, and that the factory-workers had a right to the Ten Hours Bill.

MR. S. CRAWFORD did not think that children were sufficiently protected if they were obliged to get up at half-past four, or if they were kept at work till half-past eight.

The debate which ensued took the same course as in the committee. LORD R. GROSVENOR, MR. FOX, and other members, supporting the amendment, which was strongly opposed by MR. BRIGHT, MR. ELLIOT, and MR. HUME, who insisted that its practical effect would be to further limit adult labour, and restrict the motive power of machinery.

The House having divided, the numbers were—For the amendment, 159; against it, 160; leaving a majority against the amendment of only a single vote.

Immense cheering followed the announcement of the numbers.

LORD JOHN MANNERS then moved to amend the first clause by substituting "half-past five" for "six," and "half-past three" for "two;" the effect of which alterations was to make this strictly a Ten Hours Bill, which, he contended, it was the clear intention of the Legislature that the act of 1844 should be. He dwelt at considerable length upon the benefits which the ten hours' system have conferred on the factory population, and upon the ardent desire of the operatives that those advantages should be assured to them, and quoted various passages from the letters in the *Morning Chronicle* on "Labour and the Poor" in support of his statements. He ridiculed the notion that a paltry half-hour secured to the master manufacturers by this bill was indispensable to enable them to compete with foreigners; on the contrary, a large minority of the master-manufacturers of Lancashire knew that their interests had not been sacrificed by the boon conferred upon their working people, to whom, however, as concerned their education and their domestic happiness, the additional half-hour's labour was a serious evil; it amounted to one-fourth part of the time set apart for the religious, moral, and mental education of the rising population of the factories. He made a

skilful allusion to the medal accepted by her Majesty, which bore upon its reverse "A Ten Hours Bill," and which would have to be returned to the factory operatives if the bill were carried in its present shape. In conclusion, he implored the House not to vote under an illusion that the bill unamended would settle this question. Let them fairly and honourably redeem their pledge, and prove to the working people of this country that they attached more value to the declared intentions of the legislature, and to the claims and rights of the industrial population than to the back-stairs influence and coffee-house combination of any set of associated supporters of the Government. He appealed to the ancient spirit of English honour to vindicate the rights, the admitted rights, of English labour, and to show that they were not only in name and in theory, but in deed and reality, the representatives of the Commons of England.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. HORNEY, who complained that the desertion of the operatives' cause by Lord Ashley had produced a very prejudicial effect upon the question. He could not see that there was the slightest ground for insisting upon the additional half hour's labour.

Sir G. GREY hoped the House would not adopt the amendment of the noble Lord, who, as well as his seconder, had treated this bill as if it was a repeal of the act of 1847, whereas its intention was to secure the attainment of the objects of that act, with the advantage of the cordial concurrence of the mill-owners; and he had always considered it to be most important for the interests of all classes concerned in this question to combine the great mass of the operatives with the great mass of the millowners. Sir George vindicated the consistency of his own conduct and the course taken by the Government, who, after Lord Ashley's vain attempts to work out his object in drawing his own bill, believed that they were acting in the spirit of the law of 1847 in making their proposition to Parliament, which they knew was for the benefit of the operatives. There was no breach of good faith—no violation of honour—in dealing with the question, as this bill did, more in the spirit of the act of 1847 than an attempt to adhere to its letter would enable them to do.

The amendment was supported by Mr. BANKES, Mr. STANFORD, and Mr. NEWDEGATE. Mr. MUNTZ said he had voted for a ten hours bill in 1847, and, as an honest man, he should vote for it now. Mr. HEALD, "as a man of honour," felt himself constrained to give his vote for it also. Mr. J. W. FOX, Alderman SIDNEY, Mr. ANSTAY, Mr. B. COCHRANE, Mr. S. CRAWFORD, and Mr. GREENALL, all spoke on the same side. Mr. HEYWOOD and Mr. WILSON PATTEN, the members for North Lancashire, both opposed the amendment.

Lord J. RUSSELL stated the grounds of his support of the bill of 1847, which he believed to be founded upon sound principles, and he had no wish to repeal it. It was Lord Ashley who proposed to alter that act, on behalf of the operatives. If, then, he was called upon to pronounce an opinion upon that act, he must see what it did and what it did not do. There was no provision in the acts of 1847 or 1844 as to the limitation of employment between the hours of 6 and 6; this bill, therefore, proposed an enactment entirely new. The question was, whether the arrangement in the bill was not, on the whole, very beneficial to the operatives and their families. There was only one case in which he could conceive that the plan of the Government could be unacceptable, namely, if the whole body of the operatives should say "We wish the law to remain as it is, and we will require you to abide by the act of 1847." But, as far as he was informed, there was no such general feeling among the operatives. The proposition of the Government did amend the law, but it amended it so as to meet the mutual interests of the two parties; whereas Lord J. Manners would amend the law on one side only, and impose fresh restrictions upon the employers, which would be a disadvantage to the operatives themselves.

Mr. ELLIOTT opposed the amendment, and Mr. BROTHERTON deprecated the rejection of the bill as it stood, which would make the relay system more general.

Mr. EDWARDS supported the amendment.

Mr. DISRAELI denied that Lord Ashley had sought to alter the act of 1847, but to correct the errors of the act of 1844. The working classes of the country believed that when they gained the former act their labour was to be limited to ten hours, and they refused to be mystified by references to other legislative short-comings. A moral, not an economical, question was before the House—a question of the honour of Parliament.

The House then divided, when Lord John Manners's amendment was negatived by 181 to 142; majority, 39.

The report was then brought up and agreed to.

THE PURITAN SABBATARIANS.—A Liverpool merchant in the *Times* of this morning says:—"When I was last in London (not many weeks back) it was my fortune to pass by the porches of more than one of your west-end chapels and churches—one of them in South Audley-street—about half-past one p.m. The

number of gay equipages collected round them was so great that one might have supposed oneself to be assisting at the termination of a theatrical performance. Who groomed those horses so sprucely, who turned out those carriages so neatly? It was done of course by hands; and who set the hands a-going? It may be Lord Ashley may go on foot to his own place of worship of a Sunday; but will he tell us that every seventh day he satisfies his hunger with a sandwich cut over night, and quenches his thirst at the water-decanter upon his dressing-table? If the practice of the Neo-Postals fall one jot or tittle short of perfection, let them set their own houses in order before meddling with the necessary business of the country, even although an infinitesimally small proportion of that business must be transacted on the Sunday. Lord Ashley may, for aught I know, be the moral phenomenon who would alone be entitled to head such a movement, but I am acquainted with at least one part of Great Britain where strong Sabbatarian feeling and laxity of practice go hand in hand. To be accurate, I should say that I am speaking of Scotland as it was some seven or eight years ago, and I am not aware that since that time matters are changed for the better. I know what a Glasgow Sunday evening is, or was, and the religious fervour of the post-prandial whiskey-tipping as well as of the morning's devotions. I may of course be wrong, but for my part I do not hold these pious Scotch Bacchanalians entitled to debar me from the privilege of receiving my letters on a Sunday, if such an act be consonant with my own notions of right and wrong. What would they say to an address to the Queen to put down whiskey-toddy throughout Scotland on the Sabbath day?"

The committee on the French President's Dotation Bill met on Thursday. Six members are favourable to the bill. Of the remaining nine, five are opposed to it, and four propose to grant the augmentation yearly, under the form of supplementary credits to the budget.

The election of Girardin for the department of the Lower Rhine is announced, but the official figures are not given. He is stated to have obtained a majority of 6000 votes over the Conservative candidate.

The trial of Proudhon and Laugrand, for seditious articles in the *Voix du Peuple*, took place on Thursday. After long speeches in defence of the accused, by MM. Montjau and Cremieux, and an oration by Proudhon himself, which was listened to with much interest, the jury retired for an hour, and reappearing at six, delivered a verdict of "Not guilty."

The French Assembly decided on Thursday, by a majority of 372 against 226, against bestowing rewards upon the combatants of February.

M. Guizot is on the point of setting out on a journey which will comprise the leading courts in Germany. The motive assigned for this tour is to gather materials for a great historical work. The great activity in conducting political intrigues evinced by M. Guizot during his sojourn in Paris, and his assiduous appearance in the salons of the Russian embassy, give room for surmise that his mission is by no means confined to literary researches.

The *Correspondenz Bureau* says that a press law for the states belonging to the Erfurt union is being drawn up, and will be presented to the Parliament immediately on its meeting.

Accounts have been received in Paris from M. Thiers. He was well received by Louis Philippe, whom he found in a very precarious state of health. A marked change is said to be visible in the countenance of the ex-King. M. Guizot is on the eve of leaving Paris for St. Leonard's, and M. de Broglie was to leave to-day (Saturday).

On Wednesday night there occurred a very serious disturbance at the *Barrière Poissonnière*, Paris, which might easily have ended in another 13th of June. A drunken quarrel, about half past eight, had collected a crowd near the military post of the *barrière*. The commander of this post sent two soldiers to disperse the mob. Some soldiers passing on their way to quarters assisted in this duty; and being met by a determined resistance on the part of the crowd, the soldiers collared two of the nearest and led them off to the post. In a few minutes upwards of 500 blouses were on the spot and prepared to storm the post. The corporal, who had sent off for assistance to the barracks of La Nouvelle France, drew up his men in order of battle, and made them load their arms. The pause which followed on this demonstration of energy enabled the reinforcements to arrive in time to save the post. The new comers were however received with a shower of stones; but after a few charges they succeeded in clearing the space in front of the *corps de garde*, and in arresting six of the rioters. Shortly after half-past ten quiet was restored.

A telegraphic despatch from Berlin, dated June 12, announces the safe arrival of the King at Sans Souci from the Palace at Charlottenburg. His Majesty was not fatigued by the short journey. The College of Princes of the German Union was opened on the 12th, at noon, under the presidency of Baron Sydow.

From Dresden it is reported that there have been some disturbances at Neustadt, near Stolpen. A military force had been sent thither by railroad. They appeared not to be connected with any political cause.

The attempts made by the Austrian Government to obliterate every memorial of the leaders of the Hungarian movement border on the ridiculous. A lithographer at Pesth, in whose workshop a stone was found with an unfinished likeness of Kossuth upon it, has been seized and imprisoned by the police; and the whole impression of an engraving of Kossuth's children has been confiscated and burnt.

The Leader

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1850.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in its eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

SERIOUS INVASION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE PEOPLE.

ANXIETY for the welfare of the working classes and efforts to improve their condition have become so far popular at the present day, that a man would be looked upon with surprise, if not with suspicion, who declared himself indifferent to such philanthropic movements. Hence the energy with which men set on foot societies for "improving the condition" and "the dwellings of the industrious classes," for "the relief of distressed needlewomen by emigration," and for similar objects, all testifying the anxiety of a charitable public to do as much as possible for the poor that are among them.

Now, we would not for a moment deprecate the existence, or impugn the motives of these philanthropic efforts. It is the duty of those who can to make them while the present state of society exists; their religion prompts them to it, their conscience would be wronged if they did not perform it. But we would gladly see more earnest and systematic endeavours made to put it within the power of the operatives to help themselves.

Such endeavours are exemplified in the establishment of the Working Tailors' Association, alluded to elsewhere, and in other experiments of a similar kind, and we allude to them more emphatically at the present moment, for two reasons. One of these is, that a committee of the House of Commons, granted at the instance of Mr. Slaney, is now sitting to inquire into the best plan of investing the savings of the working classes; and the second is, that there is before the House a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to Friendly Societies, in which bill is omitted the clause of 9 and 10 Victoria, cap. 27, providing "for the frugal investment of the savings of the members, for better enabling them to purchase food, clothing, or other necessities, or the tools or implements of their trade or calling, &c." Under this clause cooperative stores have been opened and joint stock flour mills erected in various places, and with signal advantage.

It has been felt that more extensive facilities than the clause affords are needful to carry out the purposes for which that portion of the act was framed; and efforts have been made to induce the Government to grant those additional facilities, but without success. It is now proposed to do away with those facilities altogether.

It may be that this abrogation is attempted in consequence of its being contemplated by Mr. Slaney's Committee to recommend measures by which the laws of partnership, according to the suggestion of the *Economist*, might be modified in accordance with the French law of "*Société en commandité*": even in that case, we would rather not part with our old privileges, however imperfect, till we know ourselves sure of new and better ones in exchange.

But, as the matter now stands, we call the most serious attention of the friends of the People, in and out of Parliament, of the members of Mr. Slaney's committee, and of the People themselves, to this most serious curtailment of their powers; and we recommend all to take such steps respectively, as will be best calculated to secure those rights and interests for the present, and provide for their safety and progressive advancement in the future.

LORD GREY'S AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY.

ONE measure about which the Lords have been busy this week, faithfully following the Commons, looks not like an act of Parliament, but an act of destiny. In the bill for the government of the Australian colonies, all concerned appear to be furthering some ultimate end which their minds do not contemplate and their hands would refuse to

serve. Its author, Earl Grey, has literally had his head turned: it not only violates his professed objects, but, as the Bishop of Oxford showed, its whole substance and force are such as Lord Grey denounced in his prime as Lord Howick.

The measure is a gratuitous absurdity, unsupported by a reason. There has been no public demand for it in this country—nobody wants it. The sole motive to any attendance in Parliament was, that with the small knot of organized Tory Opposition, willing to resist the Government on any subject, was united a zealous little band of men versed in the affairs of the colonies and eager to do justice. Members generally would rather have staid away, and the House would have passed the measure in sheer apathy, but the majority was summoned to its place in support of Government. The bill passes, therefore, because the majority of the Commons, caring naught for the colonies, dislikes the idea of a Ministerial crisis and its troublesome consequences.

Its author assures the Peers that the colonists want it. There is some speck of truth in this assurance, but hidden to the mind of Lord Grey, who would not forward that truth if he knew it: he is as unconscious of it as the horse of the plans in the mind of the man that bestrides his back. The assertion is mostly false, in the sense that Lord Grey would have the Peers understand. The colonists generally do not want the measure. They want something different. They have had two measures offered to them, both by Lord Grey, and one was so bad that this is accepted by comparison; but on the substantial merits of the measure they have expressed no opinion.

Or, rather, they have expressed an adverse opinion. The leading independent member of the Legislative Council, Mr. Robert Lowe,—an English gentleman, who was chosen a Government nominee for his striking abilities and elevated understanding, but whose clear insight and conscience obliged him to act on behalf of the colony at large, resigning his office under Government,—has taken the opportunity offered by a meeting of the Colonial Reform Association in London, to explain the whole views of the colonial mind in New South Wales. In that colony the constitution intended by the bill already exists in its main features; the bill professes to perpetuate that constitution in New South Wales, and to extend it to the other Australian Colonies, with a power of local revision and of establishing a federal Assembly. The Colonists do not want what the bill offers, they want what it does not give.

Their experience of a single Chamber, for instance, is unfavourable. In a single Chamber, like that of New South Wales, the Government nominees, with the help of a small balance-holding section among the elected representatives, override the majority. In this respect the nominees are thought by the promoters of the bill to act beneficially as a check upon the otherwise dominant "Currency" population of New South Wales—the population composed of convicts, or descended from that class. But the Colonists, as represented by Mr. Lowe, declare that the bill will destroy what is valuable in the actual constitution of their province; especially that it would enable the dominant Convictism to erase from the constitution the class of nominees; and that by separating "Victoria,"—that is, the Port Phillip district,—from New South Wales, it would remove from the constituency the only part untainted by Convictism, and would thus withdraw the six elected members who may be said to represent the Free Emigrant interest. The high exclusive franchise shuts out leaseholders; the great aristocratic proprietors of the Colony being stock-owners who hold land on lease. The Currency folks are far beyond the Free Emigrants in wealth, far ahead of them in the acquisition of land. The bill, therefore, fills the Free Emigrant mind with alarm.

It makes no offer of the thing that they do want—relief from the remote and, therefore, unintelligent, but meddlesome and irresistible Government by the Colonial-office in Downing-street. They cannot establish a public bank without the consent of Mr. Hawes and his subordinates in Downing-street; and they, forming one of the most intelligent and energetic communities in the world, desire to be released from that frivolous and vexatious controul. They would rather, they say, have a despotic governor on the spot than a despotic bureau at the Antipodes. And they are right.

The one speck of truth which the doomed Earl bears upon his back is this: some of the colonists do not dislike the bill, but they belong to the Cur-

rency race. As Mr. Lowe explains with truth, the bill is likely enough to develop in the colony precisely that class and that sort of strength which Lord Grey is the last man in the world to contemplate; for it will throw great power into the hands of this Currency population. It may, indeed it probably will, place in the hands of that race the means of acquiring full power of self-government.

The free emigrants, the "aristocratic" classes, the wealthy, and the thoroughly British, view this probability with dread; a dread which will not seem unnatural when we look to a certain artificial war of races occasioned by the distinctions of class in a convict colony, or when we look back at the horrible contaminations of convictism in its rampant days. But we do not share the alarm of the "Aristocratic" or Free Emigrant class: in believing that the Currency population of New South Wales will acquire ample means of self-management and self-development, we foresee no danger or mischief to Australia. There are many reasons for this belief. The Currency class, descended from the ill-grown and stunted criminal population of Great Britain, is remarkable for its handsome growth and beauty: it is not, therefore, a degenerate race, but an improved race; in short, it is a section of the Anglo-Saxon family specially favoured by the highly congenial soil of Australia. It has, consequently, not a degenerate but an improved form of the Anglo-Saxon faculties, and such a race can neither be bad nor foolish. We believe that to gather from our colonial settlements the full advantage of which they are capable, ample scope must be given to the local tendencies of soil and climate; that each colony must be permitted to develop for itself a certain distinct "nationality," which is, indeed, nothing but another term for the full development of those peculiar faculties that soil, climate, and opportunity are calculated to call forth. Belonging to the English family, the colonist should still be essentially and distinctively Canadian, West Indian, or Australian; with national character, local institutions should correspond; and to do so they must be in great part self-formed. The tendency of Lord Grey's bill, therefore, to develop a Currency democracy in New South Wales, is one which we view with no alarm, though it is certainly the last object in the mind of its author. Such unconscious instruments are men in the working of God's laws.

BEGINNING AT THE WRONG END.

"Unless comfort can be made as habitual to a whole generation, as indigence is now, nothing is accomplished, and feeble half-measures do but fritter away resources far better reserved until the improvement of public opinion and of education shall raise up politicians who will not think that, merely because a scheme promises much, the part of statesmanship is to have nothing to do with it."—John Stuart Mill.

In reading the benevolent speeches made by various noblemen and gentlemen at the meeting of the Society for Improving the Condition of the Labouring Classes, last week, one cannot help wondering at every speaker for carefully avoiding the slightest reference to the main cause which induces the wretched condition of the labouring population in large towns. Notwithstanding their familiar acquaintance with the rural districts, none of the noblemen present seemed to be aware that the overcrowded state of those parts of London where the poor are "huddled together in indiscriminate filth and confusion," is mainly owing to the constant influx of unemployed labourers from the country. The Reverend Mr. Champneys said, "he had been struck with the great increase of births in those wretched localities, and the rapidity with which a large portion of the children were carried off."

Did it never occur to Mr. Champneys to enquire where all the fathers and mothers of those wretched infants come from? By a recent parliamentary return we learn that the increase of population in the metropolis, during the last ten years, was 325,904, or at the rate of 32,590 a year. Now, considering the awful amount of misery and destitution in London, from want of employment, as revealed in the valuable reports of the *Morning Chronicle* commissioners, it seems to us that the very first question to be settled by such a society as the one over which Lord John Russell presides is—how to prevent this dropsical accumulation of the labouring population in large towns?

Five or six years ago Lord John Russell described the condition of the poor as much worse than it was at the beginning of the century, while that of the middle and higher classes was much better than it had been then. And yet what a

wretched state was that "superior" one from which the poor have gradually been sinking, while the wealthy classes have been growing more and more wealthy. More than fifty years ago Lord Nelson, speaking of the country labourers in the place where he was then residing, says, "They are really in want of everything to make life comfortable;" but bad as their condition was then, it is far worse now; as any one may see by looking at the operation of the New Poor-law in the rural districts. By means of that measure and other minor enactments, well contrived for the purpose, the landowners and farmers have succeeded in driving the surplus labourers into the large towns, where thousands of them must either starve or maintain a wretched existence by theft and begging.

In the agricultural counties early marriages are quite as common and as prolific as they are in towns; but the landowners contrive to saddle the towns with the support of all the increase of population. Emigration has done wonders in relieving the country of a large portion of its annual increase during the last three years; but after all that relief, what a vast mass of pauperism and unemployed labour is still left behind!

In alluding to the cholera, the Earl of Harrowby remarked, that the investigations to which that calamity gave rise had taught us that "We best discharged our duty, not only to the poor, but to ourselves, by doing all we could for the improvement of the dwellings of the poor": but, why not extend the same principle to all that can be done for improving the condition of the labouring classes? If he will look a little deeper into the matter, the Earl might find that he and his fellow noblemen would best discharge their duty, not only to the poor, but to the wealthy, by straining every nerve to make comfort as habitual to the working class as indigence and squalid misery are now.

In speaking of the importance of erecting cheap and healthful dwelling houses in the heart of the City, Lord Ashley said, "he was addressing working men who would agree that the working man's house must be within reach of his employment": but if this be true of the London artisan, it is no less true of the Dorsetshire labourer; and we may remind Lord Ashley, that he and his colleagues will never be able to carry out any great improvement in town till they make the labourers more comfortable in the country. In Dorset, according to the *Times* reporter, the most note-worthy feature in the condition of the labourers, is the miserable cottage accommodation:—

"You may find in the day room of a hard-working labourer's family nothing but the damp uneven earth for a floor; you may see in one corner a ladder, by which the inmates ascend to a loft, over which there is sometimes nothing but the wretched roof for a ceiling, the wind driving violently through upon the beds. * * * I went into a house, or more properly a barn, for it consists of a single room, and has neither floor nor ceiling. I found living there a widow and her seven children. There are two beds, but no curtains to either; the three eldest sons are young farm-labourers, twenty, seventeen, and sixteen years old; the daughters are younger. * * * In another cottage the sleeping-room of the family contains two beds, in one of which the labourer and his wife sleep, with their two youngest children. In the other bed, which is six feet four inches by four feet six inches, there sleep his unmarried niece, twenty years old, his daughter, aged thirteen, and four sons, aged eighteen, fifteen and a half, eight, and five."

Such is the state of things in Dorsetshire, and there are many other counties not a whit better. The fact is that the landlords will neither build new cottages nor repair the old. They take infinite pains to increase the number of partridges and pheasants on their estates; some of them even go the length of encouraging the breed of foxes; but, as for the labourers, who have more right to obtain a living from the soil than any other class, they are hunted off the land to make room for game. When the towns have become crowded to unhealthiness with thousands of evicted Irish, Highland, and English peasants, the cholera comes as a visitation, and "societies" are formed "to improve the condition of the poor," in towns. None of the noblemen who are most active in promoting the very laudable object for which these societies are formed ever utter a word concerning that system of land-monopoly which has been the main cause of the evils they are vainly trying to cure, because they are "beginning at the wrong end."

THE WORKING TAILORS' ASSOCIATION.

THOSE who are terrified at the idea of Socialism, and who fancy that in it is included all that undisciplined minds have dreamed of spoliation and forced division of property, should make such

enquiry as may be within their power into the practical working of the coöperative or associative principle. They would then see that the thing itself has nothing terrible in it; that they have all along been startled at a word. And, we may observe in passing, it would be well for the advocates of association not to use that word, at all events unaccompanied with an explanation, from a regard to the prejudices and apprehensions of those who only require to be shown the value of association to be made its most zealous advocates. At present the name on the threshold frightens them, like the "Cave Canem" of the ancients; and they halt there, too timid to explore.*

The required investigation may, happily, be made for himself by any candid enquirer who is within reach of Oxford-street: not far from the Regent-circus, as our advertising columns have lately shown, is established an association of working tailors, formed by a combination of benevolent capitalists and intelligent workmen, for the twofold purpose of rescuing the operative "class from the miseries and degradation consequent on competition," and of demonstrating "that health, prosperity, and moral worth" can be secured to the operatives, and cheapness guaranteed to the consumer, by the faithful realization of the brotherly and Christian principle of coöperation.

If an enquirer would visit this establishment he would find, as we have done, cheerful and contented workmen, employed for a moderate period of the day in light and airy apartments, replete with every appliance for health and convenience for working. He would find men earning the full and fair wages of their class, not ground down by "sweaters" and by "sloppers," but adequately remunerated for their toil, and finding not their least reward in the consciousness of knowing that they are doing their part towards the emancipation of labour.

He would find a library formed for the benefit of the members, and extensively used by them; and he would learn that the improvement of the mind, as well as the comfort of the body, is an object with the association, from their contemplating the delivery of lectures and other means of instruction, as soon as their advancing arrangements will permit. He would obtain from the association clothes as well made and of as good quality as from any respectable tradesman, and at prices as low as those charged by the cheap slop-sellers, whose enormous profits have been wrung from the sufferings of the operatives.

The distribution of the surplus profits, after all expenses and interest on capital have been paid, is a notable feature of the plan. One-third is devoted to the repayment of the capital advanced by the persons through whose energy and benevolence the establishment was set on foot; another to the promotion of similar establishments and to assistance in their formation; and the remaining portion is divided equally among the members. It is an encouraging fact to such as believe in the value of the associative principle, that this equal division was determined upon at the instance of those members in receipt of the highest amount of weekly remuneration; they holding that thus compensation would be made to their less skilled or less active brethren for their smaller ordinary receipts.

Similar establishments are springing up in London and in the provinces. The joiners, the shoemakers, and the needlewomen, are imitating the example set them, and availing themselves of the aid which Christian consideration has placed at their disposal. It is needless for us to say that our most cordial wishes go along with these experiments, and that we recommend their support to every well wisher of his kind: thus he will best do homage to the fraternal principle which has animated their noble minded projectors and the intelligent workers who have united to carry out their project.

AN ARGUMENT AGAINST SANITARY REFORM.

"It is well known," says Mr. Porter, in his *Progress of the Nation*, "that in climates where the waste of human life is excessive from the combined causes of disease and poverty affecting the mass of the inhabitants, the number of births is proportionally greater than is experienced in communities more favourably circumstanced." At the late meeting of the Society for Improving the Condition of the Labouring Class, the Reverend Mr. Champneys said he had been struck with the remarkable operation

* Cave Canem—"Beware of the Dog"! This inscription, with a representation of the animal, was painted on the thresholds of the ancient Roman houses, as exemplified amongst the exhumed relics of Pompeii.

of this law, in some of the most crowded and unwholesome parts of London, as exhibited in "the great increase of births in those wretched localities, and the rapidity with which a large proportion of the children are carried off." Under the Metropolitan Interments Bill, this large increase of burials will furnish a valuable source of income to the clergymen of the unhealthy districts, and we may possibly find them, a few years hence, when the progress of sanitary reform has lessened the rate of mortality, and consequently curtailed the amount of their burial fees, bringing forward claims for compensation. Would it not be advisable to insert a prospective clause in the Interments Bill guarding against any such claim?

CREDIT.

If any of our readers were alarmed by the suggestion which we threw out, and which was powerfully echoed by Professor Newman, that the subject of the credit laws should be revised, let them be fortified by the striking remarks which have fallen from Commissioner Fane this week in the case of Delafield. We said that the laws of personal credit are "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare;" penetrate to the kernel of Mr. Fane's remarks, and see what he makes of them. We said that they induced tradesmen to neglect, not only precautions, but the commonest enquiry as to the means and character of customers on credit, in the delusive hope of obtaining, through "the law" that which they can only obtain from the substance and integrity of the debtor: say if Mr. Fane contradicts that opinion.

We asserted that the existence of credit with its apparent and fallacious extension of means, acts as a compulsion upon numbers to go beyond their means, not only for selfish objects, but also in the effort to maintain the struggle of competition for themselves, and to mitigate the consequences of a struggling existence on others who look to them for help. We said that the law does not give that security to the tradesman which it professes, and that along with the amount of debts recovered through the instrumentality of the law must be taken that gigantic aggregate of bankruptcy which is one of our established institutions. See how far Mr. Commissioner Fane bears out those assertions.

He shows, indeed, that to a great extent, by the forbearance of creditors, the law is made a dead letter. It tempts and deceives, although it is not worked at its full, because the practical trading-mind feels that the full enforcement, if not too cruel for individual conscience, would be mischievous to trade itself.

But this, like many other evils amongst us, is not an inborn evil of humanity, it is one made by man, and can be unmade by man.

CLERICAL INFIDELITY.

DENUNCIATION is a process that we do not fear, and if we regarded only worldly success we might hail the oral advertisement described by the *Lincolnshire Times*, when it says, "We understand that at the Bible meeting held on Tuesday last, the Reverend Mr. Scott denounced the *Leader* newspaper as an insidious promulgator of Infidel doctrines." But as we do not look only to worldly success, we regret the incident, because it betrays an "infidel" mind in the denouncer. We promulgate no Infidel doctrines, but claim protection and encouragement for the inborn faith in every heart. We do nothing that is "insidious": that which we think, as occasion arises, we speak out directly, without measuring or qualifying it. The denunciation proves either that Mr. Scott is incapable of understanding the nature of faith when he reads of it, or that he is guilty of a still more faithless spirit in denouncing what he has not read,—bearing false witness against his neighbour, without caring to know what he asserts. This is a spirit of "infidelity" which causes infinite misery in society, by setting man against man, warping the intellect, and enfeebling the faculties of citizen, lawmaker, and minister, for doing good. And that is the spirit which it is our special mission to combat.

VILLAGERS AND THEIR LORD.—Famine was soon effaced, but not the grateful feeling in the people's hearts; and, little as benefits should ever be conferred with the expectation of acknowledgment, it did the heart good to meet such a requital. Every Sunday, after Church, whether the people often walked from other villages of the manor, they always came to my husband with their complaints, preferring his decision to the tediousness of an appeal to law. In one instance, however pleasant this confidence was, it could not be allowed. A peasant, who believed himself to have a claim to a piece of land, which came into our possession from the previous proprietor of our estate, resolved to institute a law-suit against my husband; but, instead of going to the Central Court, he brought to the defendant himself a whole bundle of papers, and asked him to judge! Of course, my husband explained that it was impossible in a law-suit for one of the parties to decide in his own cause. The peasant shook his head, and remained of opinion that the grant of his request would have been the wiser course.—*Madame Pulszky's Hungary.*



Open Council.

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If, then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON.

A JOINT-STOCK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

Battle, June 5, 1850.

SIR,—I wished to draw the attention of the friends of progress to what I consider an easy method by which a coöperative establishment or community might be constituted, without risk to any parties, but, on the contrary, with the greatest advantage to the small capitalist, and to all parties desirous of investing their money to the best permanent advantage.

Messrs. Chambers, in their last month's Journal, writing on building and life assurance societies, &c., say, "Many start at the word socialism in our day without knowing that there is an equitable kind of it in vigorous existence and progression amongst us with the entire approbation of all rational persons. Whatever is to be the fate of this principle in its pretensions as a mode for the distribution of wealth, it is certainly found highly efficient in the meantime for protecting individuals against many of the dire calamities of life," &c.

Now, when we find such men uttering sentiments like these, I think it is time that Social Reformers should be acting, for the Chambers' are proverbial for their prudence and sagacity.

The method is simply on the principle of benefit and life assurance societies with greater advantages. It is, in fact, a mutual benefit society for the production and distribution of wealth, by which all the advantages that are derived from existing mutual societies will be combined, and much besides. But to carry out this extension of the principle of mutual assistance would require, on the part of the members, a tolerable share of intelligence and perception of the true sources of happiness; as, being somewhat of an experiment, it would require some degree of prudence and forbearance in carrying it out in its details.

Supposing a society formed for the above purpose, under the denomination of a building society. Five hundred shares of £200 each, to be paid in the usual way, £1 monthly or otherwise, would realize a sum of £100,000 in about twelve years, a sum quite ample for purchasing an estate capable of supporting 500 persons, and for erecting suitable communistic buildings and workshops, and for highly cultivating the farm, or, as it ought to be, a garden.

The purchase of the estate could be made soon after the formation of the society, as the bulk of the money would not be required until the land and buildings were in some degree of preparation; at any rate the money borrowed would not be sufficient to become an incubus to the society.

I should propose that the trustees and directors of the society should be trustees and directors for the property, and that the sole object of the society should be for forming a coöperative and self-supporting community and home for the members, the admission of whom would depend upon whether they would be profitable, and also by the consent of those members who had previously joined.

Those who understand the machinery of building societies will, I think, see their applicability to the above object, and that, as a profitable mode of investment, it would be unequalled by any of the popular modes of investment, because £200 on this plan would obtain, besides other advantages, as much as £1000 would in the usual way of purchasing land and buildings for one person only.

I know many comparatively wealthy persons who are desirous of joining such a society, and I am persuaded that the requisite members would soon be found.

I hope that this subject will be discussed in your columns, and that those who are versed in building societies will take this matter into serious consideration.

UNION.

RELIGIOUS FEDERATION.

Burton Rectory, near Lincoln, June 12, 1850.

MY DEAR SIR,—I do not think that our friend R. B. has quite apprehended the spirit of my remarks in

recommending religious federation. He appears to overlook the fact that the union I advocate is one entirely for practical purposes, and that its terms would be so wide and comprehensive as to prevent all possibility of a more firmly rivetted spiritual despotism being the result, of which he seems to have such a wholesome apprehension.

I agree with R. B. as to the failure of "religion, as it is taught us, to accomplish its original design;" but so long as religionists remain divided that failure will be perpetuated. Union, in order to carry out the fundamental principle of all religions, *love to God and to our neighbour for His sake*, will bring religious men to consider well the grounds of their speculative differences; and, if those differences must continue, to hold them as children of one universal Father, in charity and forbearance.

R. B. will not, I fancy, find much diversity between his views and mine, if he will read my former letter, especially with reference to the last paragraph of his.

I remain, my dear sir, yours most faithfully,
EDMUND R. LARKEN.

FEDERAL RELIGIOUS UNIONS.

June 11, 1850.

SIR,—I differ as widely from Mr. Thomas as the Reverend Mr. Larken himself; but it seems to me that the remarks of the latter on the means of attaining religious unity are founded on a fallacy, a very common one I own, and one too that has lately received the sanction of the highest authority in the land: but something far more weighty than *common consent*, and far higher than highest *authority*, is required to convince me that unity in the proper sense of the word can result from an *agreement to differ*. Mr. Larken accuses Mr. Thomas of confounding unity with uniformity, but falls into the very same error himself; for unity of spirit is alone real and vital, alone deserves the name of unity: where this exists there needs no such associative effort as that he proposes, and where it does not exist, conclaves, synods, and conferences will but serve to render its absence more apparent. The sympathies of nature *will* act, whether in the soul of man or in anything else; elective affinities constitute nature's associative force, and with them there is no reserve, no agreement to *sink the difference*. But, let us look a little closer at the proposed federal union. What is it to effect? In the words of Mr. Larken, "sanitary reforms, educational movements, efforts in favour of the overworked and underpaid, &c., would be carried on with that energy which united force alone can produce." Now, with respect to sanitary and labour questions, we want no federation of religious sects as such; they are matters affecting the immediate material welfare of society, and are entered upon by all who feel their importance without any reference whatever to the form of their religious convictions; with respect, however, to educational measures, it is possible that any one who has watched the controversies which have agitated the religious and political world for some years past, can have arrived at the conclusion that the consummation so devoutly to be wished, that unity for which we strive, is to be attained by any conceivable federation of religious sects? It is very easy to talk theoretically of laying aside minor differences of faith in order to coincide in the one great object of the age—the education of the people—and as long as this term, education, is regarded as a cloudy abstraction, the hypothesis of agreement on the so-called minor points seems to carry with it no great improbability; but, no sooner do we face the difficulty, no sooner do we set it before us in its distinct concrete form, than the vision of unity by federation fades and dissolves into thin air. We would unite to educate the people it is true, but *how* are they to be educated, what kind of culture shall they have? "Purely secular," says one; "purely religious," says another. And wherein consists the difference between secular and religious teaching, the difference, at least, as it is for the most part understood? Is it not that in the one case the moral and intellectual faculties of man are to be fully developed without any limitations voluntarily imposed, whilst, in the other, they are to be developed only so far as they can co-exist with a belief in certain dogmas which constitute the religious creed of the educators; this creed being of course imposed upon the educated as a necessary part of their culture? Now, for any federation to exist between parties differing so widely as the secular and religious educationists, implies a contradiction in terms, for the latter would *ipso facto* acknowledge that a creed is not necessary, and thus voluntarily throw down the barrier which divides them from the former. Then, again, the religionists are split into numerous sects, each holding certain distinctive dogmas, the points of difference being of course involved in their respective creeds, otherwise they would cease to be distinct bodies; well, in order to form a federal union, they must agree to *sink* these points of difference; in other words, to confess them *non-essential*, and thus stultify their own conclusions. Nothing seems to me more indubitable than that a federal union of sects for educational purposes is the merest chimaera that was ever invented. What is to

be done, then, it will be asked; are we to fold our hands and look on? By no means; let us work diligently and wait patiently; let us work at the barriers which divide sects and parties; stone by stone let us remove them, and unity will be accomplished by the force of those natural sympathies divinely implanted in our souls. This, as I understand it, is the meaning of the NEW REFORMATION; this the work it has to do. When it is once seen and felt by large numbers of men that creeds are only means to an end, that they have contained something good, but are not themselves that something; when religion is recognized as an ultimate and indestructible fact of human nature, and that fact known to be the inextinguishable sympathy that binds a man to his fellow-men, compelling him to work *with* them and *for* them; then, and then only, will unity be possible: but then, too, it will be not only possible but inevitable. Be it ours to spread this glorious faith, each one singly doing his appointed task, and the result who can doubt?

THEOPHILUS.

A DEFENCE OF SCRIPTURE AUTHENTICITY.

SIR,—Though I have been much interested in Mr. Newman's work, "Phases of Faith," considered as a candid review of his own moral and religious life, and as an earnest protest against the corruptions of religion, yet it was not without disappointment that I perceived, whilst perusing the later chapters of the volume, that he does not discriminate between the authentic and non-authentic portions of the Scriptures; he does not consider that those evidential circumstances which militate against the Divine origin of the doubtful or unauthenticated parts of the New Testament are wholly powerless to undermine the claims to authority and genuineness of those glorious sentiments, hallowed inculcations, and immutable laws, which are mingled with, but uncontaminated by, the manifest corruptions.

Did it never occur to so intelligent a mind as Mr. Newman's that marginal notes, inscribed on the oft-transcribed manuscripts, might, from interested and artful motives, be subsequently inserted in the text by copyists, even if more flagrant interpolations were not perpetrated? Who that is acquainted with the histories of priestcraft and monastic life, has reason to doubt the probability of this?

But how, it may be inquired, are we to decide upon the genuineness of particular passages in the New Testament? We must, in the first instance, prove it can be done by reference to external or profane history. The great facts narrated there, such as the existence of Jesus, his formation of a church, and his subsequent crucifixion—the succeeding persecution endured by his disciples, their indomitable perseverance notwithstanding the most ignominious treatment, their persistency against all worldly interests, and their constancy unto death—often violent and terrible as it was, during the earliest era of Christianity! A sufficient motive must be allowed for such remarkable conduct—had it been the conduct of *one man* the resolution of the difficulty might be fanaticism or monomania—for even two or three the same explanation might suffice, but that multitudes should adopt the same course of action, can only be accounted for by the great miraculous event which they sacrificed every earthly advantage and blessing to bear testimony to—namely the *resurrection from the dead of their Great Teacher*, and its signification to all who followed his example!

Again I contend that the Bible is the only source from which a clear conception of a pure religion can be gained—the idea of one great Beneficent Being can be arrived at by no unassisted mortal intellect. And as a proof of this, what nation, however enlightened, however gifted with genius, antecedent to the introduction of the Old Testament to the Gentile world, did attain to the knowledge of the *One True God*, the origin of the good and also of the apparent evil, the rewarder of righteousness and annihilator of wickedness.

The existence of the earth can be no evidence of a Divine Creator; for, if it were, the belief in that Being would involve the consequent belief in a still superior originator, and so on illimitably.

But to return to the question of genuineness in particular passages. When once the principal facts are established, this is comparatively easy to determine. We have only to consider the design of these revelations, the character and motives of the authorized Revealer, the corroborated injunctions, and pervading spirit of the whole, and then harmonize it by a well-considered, impartial, and conscientious rejection of any obvious contradiction, either verbal or spiritual.

I remain, sir, yours obediently,

CLARA WALBEY.

DOCTRINES.

Hampstead, June 10, 1850.

SIR,—In your review of Carlyle's pamphlet in last week's *Leader* you say, "It is not a king we want, but a doctrine to be governed by.... a doctrine that may open our understandings to a faith in the eternal powers, a faith which we once had, even in spite of

our ignorance, and which we have stupidly lost, in spite of our boasted knowledge. But we shall not gain it while the true pioneers of the age remain content to utter vaticinations that find their most eloquent and pregnant passages in equivocating language about God and the Devil. Some of us have forsworn that equivocation and are bent upon trying what plain sincere language can do."

That is an excellent resolve. But, *have* you made it? Does there not lurk in your mind a little of the reigning malady of doubt and compromise? What is your meaning when you say—"We have departed from the laws of the universe, as it seems to us, because the clergy, that sacred body, called upon to explore the said laws, and their relation with the instincts and consciences of men, have become depraved by the modern bigotry for the intellectual spirit; or by the modern faithless devotion to the commercial spirit; or by the not less modern sybaritic love of comfort and peace, rather than truth and power, for that is the present form of effeminacy amongst us."

Is there no equivocating language about Good and Evil in this sentence? Do you really deem it possible for man to depart from the laws of the universe? Is not mental delusion and hallucination one of the effects of a universe law? Do you not think that *evil* in every form is the result of a law of the universe which shows that going in the wrong direction is not the same as moving in the right? Is there not a law of evil as well as a law of good? Is not a bug a living law as well as a bee; a wolf as real as a lamb? Are they not equally in unison with the laws of truth and progress?

But, what are the laws of the universe? Are they not full of living contradictions? Is not Nature full of contradictions? Is not Scripture full of contradictions? How are we to know and understand these real or these seeming contradictions and their living conflicts?

Is it really a doctrine which is wanted "to open our understandings to a faith in the eternal powers"? Are there not good and evil doctrines; doctrines of despotic violence like wolves and tigers, as well as doctrines of humility, and peace, and liberty, like sheep and oxen? How are we to know the value and importance of such doctrines in theory and practice? What is the use of evil doctrines, and when are they to cease? What are the providential uses of foul vermin and ferocious animals? When are they to disappear and by what means? What would another doctrine do to help us onward in the twofold work of social progress: internal improvement, and external development?

In building up new doctrines are we not turning our backs on facts and revelations? Does not Mr. Newman's "Phases of Faith," and all the host of doubting books and doctrines, prove to us that we are leaving the highways of common sense and observation to wander in the swamps of dreaming logic?

It seems to me that doubts and doctrines have already split the minds of men to atoms, and that those confessions which still hold together certain sects and fragments of the universal church, are crumbling daily into dusty triturated unbelief and chaos.

What we want, then, is a better understanding of living facts and revelations; and especially of their diversities, both natural and spiritual. The mind can find no rest within itself; no science of external facts in its own dreamings; no knowledge of the universe and its progressive laws.

But how is man to compass knowledge and improve his understanding?

Let him search the Scriptures with an eye of faith, and study the creation. If he be drunk with the fumes of some narcotic doctrine, let him wait till he is sober, as a man intoxicated with strong liquor waits until his senses have recovered their own strength.

It may be asked if Scripture be not an intoxicating thing, producing sad delusions and hallucinations? This question may be answered by another—Is not Nature an intoxicating thing in alcoholic drinks imbibed without discretion and good sense?

I have no doubt of Scripture being a mixed stream of thought, divine and human; but the wisdom and the revelations it contains are not less positive on that account.

Faith in Providence is all that is required to study and observe the laws of life and progress in the universe: cosmical and microcosmical; natural and spiritual; verbal and incarnate.

That which staggers "philosophic minds," deluded by the logic of "pure reason," when they study Scripture, is the seeming mass of contradictions which abound in it. They do not recollect that contradiction is no proof of falsehood or imposture in the book of Nature. Wolves and tigers are in contradiction with lambs and antelopes, and will continue in this state of living conflict until man subdues the earth and rids it of all vermin and ferocious animals. The Gospel is in contradiction with the Law, in Scripture, and will not be logically or identically reconciled with it, until the law has been "fulfilled in every jot and tittle," beginning with

the very first commandment, which runs thus: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, over every living thing that moveth upon the earth."

Are men trying to understand the wisdom of this law, and to comply with it? I trow not. They are trying rather to fathom the depths of their own consciences, and discover dreamy notions of abstract truth and justice. They are struggling against the inward conflicts of the mind, instead of going heartily to work in the external world that they may rapidly replenish the earth and subdue it. Until this work is done, there can be no abiding peace for man.

The groundwork of the human conscience is undoubtedly the beau ideal of truth and justice, and that ideal will subdue the earth in time, but not until the law has been fulfilled, as it is written. The first jot of the first law is, "Be fruitful and multiply," that the earth may be replenished; after which it may be easily subdued, but not before. Malthusian logic opens not the understanding on this question, but the Scriptures do. Faith and common sense unfold the meaning of this law of God and of his Providence.

This is not a doctrine in the common acceptation of the word; it is a simple gleam of common sense.

There are many seeming contradictions between absolute and relative necessity in the laws of Providence. The doctrine which conciliates the two, in their progressive bearings on each other, may be called the doctrine of PROVIDENTIAL NECESSITY. The conflicts of these living contradictions in Society, in Nature, and in Scripture will continue until every jot and tittle of the law has been fulfilled.

Selfishness in man will be at war with conscience until the earth has been replenished and subdued. We have thus a general idea of the work to be accomplished and a faint idea of the time which may elapse before it is complete. The conscience will, however, grow in strength and influence, until selfishness, and fear, and ignorance have disappeared from the recesses of the soul. Not that which is true, and just, and right according to the inmost conscience of "pure reason," but that which is wise and good in the fulfilment of the law, is, and will be yet awhile, the rule of faith and understanding.

Christ came not to destroy, but to fulfil the law. He brought actual war with him, not peace.

Socialism, treading in his footsteps, has brought war into society. It is at war with stern Economism, as Gospel liberty is at war with Jewish law; not otherwise.

I will not dwell on their antagonism, but simply state that neither of them can give way entirely until the earth has been replenished and subdued, and then Economism will finally succumb to Socialism: by which I mean the beau ideal of humanity, and truth, and justice in society.

It is essential to the peace and progress of society in Europe, and especially in England, that the beau ideal of humanity and justice should be carefully distinguished from the stern realities of duty and necessity, in practical development.

Religious men may contemplate the beau ideal of ultimate perfection, but politicians must conform to the necessities of life, and follow wisdom more than abstract justice. By wisdom I mean the law of necessity, as it is given in the Scriptures and revealed in Nature.

Ideal Socialism, in its present state, is an impracticable thing; but many of its elements may be engrafted on the selfish organism of society. Working men may organize associations, and the labouring men of joint-stock companies may share a certain portion of the profits now monopolized by capital alone. The latter operation would transform joint-stock Monopolism into JOINT-STOCK SOCIALISM, and realize a high degree of practical improvement in society.

To return, however, to the question of "a doctrine to be governed by," I will observe that, under the direction of an all-wise Providence, society will right itself, whatever men may do or think in their respective spheres. There is no possibility of our "departing from the laws of the universe," however much a few of us may lose our way in errors and delusions. Doctrines are to minds and to society what architectural science is to building. What do we want to build up in society?—that is the question. Do we want to build up anything, or merely to amuse the mind with a series of dissolving views?

HUGH DOHERTY.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

The Temple, June 11, 1850.

SIR,—One letter on marriage and divorce is a necessary sequence to that which you favoured me by inserting on love and marriage. My text must still be the position of Mr. Lewes's heroine, that "It is an unsacred thing to force two human beings to live together as man and wife after all affection has died out." Her lover replies that marriage is a social responsibility. Is it a just one to the unloving pair and to society? If "true self-love and social are the

same," there is but one question. Can society find any duty of a good citizen in the continuance of his immoral and discordant union? The impression that the bond is life-long might be expected to induce unions founded on such sentiments of entire harmony as would ensure their life-long continuance. But experience proves the contrary fact, which is consequent on our present imperfect moral nature. Either the physical attraction deceives men as to the virtues of the object of desire, or they neglect all other attributes in the love of mammon or dignity. Hence an immoral state of discord.

Should the union of two beings so imperfect and fallible in their moral natures be compulsorily life-long? Habit which assimilates some natures alienates others. Their imperfections are too potent to be reconciled. Doctor Johnson even said that if men and women were paired by a decree of the Lord Chancellor there would be fewer unhappy marriages than result from the free choice of parties. A marriage law, imposing an obligation on the parents to provide for their offspring, is all that comes within the province of public legislation. A private contract otherwise which the parties are free to make, they should be equally free as in other private contracts to dissolve.

There are other incompatibilities besides that of infidelity which make the continuance of the union immoral because hopelessly unhappy. Such is discord of tempers, which in America is a legal ground of divorce. In England adultery is the only legal ground of divorce, *à vinculo matrimonii*, enabling the parties to marry again elsewhere. Yet, though the principle is conceded by the English law, its practice is virtually denied to the mass of the people by its expensiveness. It is a vexed question whether greater facilities should be given to divorce by cheapening it. If not, there is not the "equal eye" of justice to rich and poor. That is denied to the justice of a man's or woman's cause which is granted to his or her wealth. The cheapness of the appeal would not lessen the means, to be placed before the divorcing tribunal, of determining the sufficiency or not of the causes of the appeal. The "civil contract" into which parties may now enter before the Registrar does not deceive them into immoral unions by the sanction of religion. But even the Registrar's certificate insists on the continuance of the union after it has become unhappy. Otherwise it suffices for all legal obligations. In the present state of the law nothing less than an Act of Parliament, and for one cause only, can dissolve a marriage. This is caused by the superstition that God has joined the parties. The frequently corrupt motives for which they marry, and their subsequent discord, is the best denial. A divorcing tribunal (if any be necessary) cheaply attainable and authorized by Act of Parliament, would decide as wisely as the House of Lords. The mere civil contract before the Registrar cannot require such ceremonious and (save to the rich) unattainable negative. In Holland, Prussia, the Protestant States of Germany, Sweden, Denmark, and Russia, divorces for adultery are grantable by judicial tribunals. (Fergusson on *Marriage and Divorce*, 202.)

It has been objected that facilities of divorce would induce the conduct which might obtain it. This conduct pre-supposes an absence of that affection and happiness which can alone make the continuance of the union desirable. The present state of the law and the hardship it inflicts on the poor man was thus hit off by Mr. Justice Maule at the Warrick Lent Assizes, 1845. The prisoner was convicted of bigamy. His first wife had deserted him taking their child with her. He followed her to her retreat, but was beaten by ruffians, her associates. Ten years afterwards he married again. But he was tied to the contract though the other party to it had abjured it and deserted him.

"Mr. Justice Maule, in passing sentence, said that it did appear that he had been hardly used. It was hard fortune to be so used and not to have another wife to live with him when the former had gone off to live in an improper state with another man. But the law was the same for him as it was for a rich man. As the rich man would have done he also should have pursued the proper means pointed out by law, whereby to obtain redress. He should have brought an action against the adulterer, and should have obtained damages, and then should have gone to the Ecclesiastical Court, and obtained a divorce, which would have done what had been done already; and then he should have gone to the House of Lords and, proving all his case and the preliminary proceedings, have obtained a full and complete divorce, after which he might, if he liked it, have married again. The prisoner might, perhaps, object to this that the expense would amount to £500 or £600; perhaps he had not so many pence, but this did not exempt him from paying the penalty for committing a felony, of which he had been convicted."

The more ignorant and poorer classes are those who are least likely to form unions on well-regulated and permanent sentiments of concord. Yet the present state of the law is a denial of redress. Hence cruelty, desertion, and often murder, or the law drives the poor man into bigamy by denying lawful redress, and then punishes his self-redress.

FRANCIS WORSLEY.

TEETOTALISM.

June 10.

SIR,—Seeing that most of the leading ideas of the age have been expounded to your "Open Council," and that a fair and impartial hearing has been accorded to all, I take the opportunity of appearing before that august body on behalf of teetotalism.

I do this boldly, because, in my opinion, it stands first among the reformatory agencies of the time,—one which is fraught with the grandest results to our country and the world. It would abolish the use of that which causes the greatest proportion of the crime and misery now rampant in our streets, at least, so have said our judges, magistrates, police officers, and others well competent to advise on such a matter. Judge Coleridge has said, "That he never knew a case brought before him which was not directly or indirectly connected with intoxicating liquor." Judge Erskine has said, "That 99 cases out of every 100 arose from the same cause." Judge Patteson, in addressing a Norwich jury, said, "If it were not for this drinking, you and I should have nothing to do." Mr. Shaw, the Recorder of Dublin, has said, "That in 40 out of 50 cases that came before him weekly, the crimes he believed were traceable to intemperance as their direct cause." And further, in support of this, I fearlessly appeal to the unprejudiced testimony of every reasoning man. Who is there but knows something of its baneful effects, some orphaned family or maltreated wife, some noble, hopeful man, transformed into a wretched, besotted outcast? Do not our newspapers teem with crimes and accidents which owe their origin to the use of alcoholic beverages? And, to extend our range, has not the fire-water of the pale faces done more than their swords towards exterminating the aborigines of North America? Was not their effect so potent that the semi-barbarous chiefs of the Sandwich Isles have denounced their use, and made it criminal to trade in them? And not many years ago we saw that the Christian doctrines imbibed by the Raiateans, could not withstand the temptations of the grog shop, and lo, John Williams was overcome by the rum barrel. It may be said that was the abuse of the thing. I answer that the abuse is inseparably connected with the use, and that where one is there is inevitably the other. Burns, Byron, and Sheridan are instances of the power they exert over the strongest minds; and they stand not alone, a host of great and good men could be brought forward to prove a similar effect.

The use of alcoholic drinks is attended with injury to every person coming under their influence. Some of the most eminent men of the faculty have pronounced them poisons; for instance, Cheyne, Darwin, Farre, Green, Pereira, Christison, &c. Upwards of 1000 medical men, including the highest living authorities have spoken thus:—"Total and universal abstinence from alcoholic liquors would greatly contribute to the health and happiness of the human race." Taken into the system they interfere with all its functions, hindering digestion, carbonizing the blood, and robbing it of its vitalizing power, increasing the rapidity of the pulse to a most unnatural degree, and introducing disease and all its concomitants into this our exquisitely formed body.

One of the many proofs of the advantages of teetotalism lies here. The last report of the Temperance Life Assurance-office shows that the per centage in deaths of its members, as compared with the other offices, is 7½ to 20. The manufacture of intoxicating liquors employs but one labourer, where the manufacture of other commodities employs seventeen. Sixty millions sterling are annually spent in this country upon those articles, for which about 6d. in the pound is paid for manufacturing. Now just for a moment imagine this almost wasted sum diverted into the legitimate channels of commerce, how would the heart of Brummagem rejoice, and behold Liverpool would be filled with joy. Sixty millions annual increase in the demand for cutlery and cloth, furniture and food, hardware and hammocks, where would be our unemployed labour then? Why the only protection we want is protection from our bad habits. Thomas Carlyle aptly says, "No man oppresses thee O free and independent franchiser; but does not this stupid porter pot oppress thee? No son of Adam can bid thee come or go; but this absurd pot of heavywet, this can and does! Thou art the thrall, not of Cedric the Saxon, but of thy own brutal appetites, and this scoured dish of liquor." It is possible, and 'tis very probable, that merrie England shall yet be released from this horrid incubus, her workers, instead of being as at present ignorant, besotted, and depraved, becoming sober and intelligent (and their drinking habits form the greatest barrier to this), her middle and upper classes released from these conventional and injurious usages, with clear heads and warm hearts, employing themselves in furthering the cause of progress and humanity; and then, what might not we sturdy Saxons become? Greece and Rome fell but from their luxury and licentiousness; but England, having learned to subdue this, might stand exalted among the nations, grasping and realising that vision of poets and philosophers, the golden age. May it please your Honourable Council that, if

these ideas find any favour in your sight, you will be pleased to exhibit them to that large body the public, for whose benefit you are now sitting.

C. T.

LAWS OF NATURE: POPULATION.

June 11, 1850.

SIR,—Allow me to observe that the remarks in the last number of the *Leader* on my letter on the "Laws of Nature and Population," appear to me to contain no answer to my positions, but only declamation instead of reason and facts, the usual fault of "sentimentalists." By "sentimentalism" I mean the setting up of feeling or "moral sense," as a test of truth in opposition to reason, fact, and the laws of Nature. I have no objection to "sentiment" provided it be kept within due bounds by reason and knowledge; otherwise it must lead to great and deplorable errors.

I argue that sentiment or moral sense must not be taken as our sole guide in principle or action, as the writer seems to contend, for he says, "nothing that our moral sense revolts against shall have our political approbation," and "we oppose the unequivocal verdict of our most powerful feelings," because the laws of Nature, which I regard as the only infallible test of truth, and from which there is no appeal, do often contradict our moral sense or sense of justice and humanity, as in the support of animal life by animal destruction, the innocent being involved in the punishment of the guilty in the operation of general laws, &c. &c.; consequently it is very possible that a principle or a law may offend our moral sense, and yet, being in accordance with the laws of Nature, must be incontestably true. Our moral sense may mislead us, for it may be the result of erroneous instruction; but the laws of Nature, being founded on universal facts, cannot err. Our moral sense may induce us to relieve the casual beggar; but experience proves that in doing so, nine times out of ten, we encourage idleness and roguery. It will never be well for the cause of real humanity till philanthropists take counsel of the laws of Nature instead of their "moral sense," which experience proves to be a very fallacious guide.

With respect to the assertion of Malthus, as regards the rate of increase of population and subsistence, it has no necessary connection with the question. "Some," says Mill (*Political Economy*, vol. 1., p. 421), "have achieved an easy victory over a passing remark of Mr. Malthus, hazarded chiefly by way of illustration, that the increase of food may perhaps be assumed to take place in an arithmetical ratio while population increases in a geometrical, when every candid reader knows that Mr. Malthus laid no stress on this unlucky attempt to give numerical precision to things which do not admit of it, and every person capable of reasoning must see that it is wholly superfluous to his argument." The facts to be kept in mind are that land is limited and its productiveness is limited; "this limited quantity of land," says Mill, "and limited productiveness of it, are the real limits to the increase of production," and that in all civilized countries the births exceed the deaths: from these facts it seems to follow as a necessary consequence that, without the intervention of some checks which Nature seems to have provided, the population would ultimately exceed the means of subsistence. In proportion, therefore, as the physical checks are removed or mitigated, the moral checks must be called into operation; and I confess I have yet to learn that there is anything "immoral" or "revolting" in the exercise of prudence and self-restraint, or anything highly moral (as seems implied) in the free play of the animal instincts. It is true self-restraint may be an evil, but it is one of the necessary characteristics of civilization which, says Mill, "in every one of its aspects is a struggle against animal instincts," an evil which is counterbalanced by many advantages, and therefore to be submitted to unless we prefer the freedom of savage life. If philanthropists expect, as some seem to do, to frame a system of society that shall be altogether or almost free from evil, Nature, I consider, pronounces them to be visionary and impracticable, for the system of Nature is one of compensation not of perfection.

F. B. BARTON.

RIGHT OF THE SUFFRAGE.

Dundee, May 26, 1850.

SIR,—As one of the unfranchised who have always held the suffrage to be the absolute natural right of every sound-minded adult man (to say nothing of women at present) would you allow me, through the medium of your Open Council, to put a few questions, &c., to your correspondent H. R., who takes the opposite view.

And first, I would ask, has not every infant born an absolute natural right to life? If not, who has a right to take life away from it? If it has, has it not an equal right to its mother's fostering care, and to its natural sustenance? Does not all humanity respond in the affirmative? And if this be admitted, has not every adult man the same absolute natural right to life and sustenance which he had when an infant, seeing that Nature which gives the right also

furnishes the means of exercising and enjoying it? If not, again I ask, who has the right to withhold or destroy them? If he has these absolute natural rights, and I affirm he has, is not the right to the suffrage equally natural and absolute as a consequence? How can a man hold and enjoy life as a man without the suffrage? Is it not the suffrage, directly or indirectly, which disposes of his means of subsistence and enjoyment? Does not the suffrage by its institutions, mark out the limits of his share of the surface of the earth—of his estate either in land, houses, or other property? Does it not take from him in the form of taxes as much, or as little, as is deemed requisite for the objects in view? Does it not surround him with circumstances to enrich or to pauperize him? Does it not, in short, dispose of his whole earthly interests?—ay, and does it not attempt to influence the way he should go to secure his well-being hereafter? Seeing, then, that the suffrage is so omnipotent for good or for evil throughout the lifetime of man, and seeing that the complete enjoyment of life depends so much upon its proper exercise,—who will say that I have not as much right to the suffrage as to my life? and that that right is not at once natural and absolute? If I have not a right to the suffrage, who has? And not only who has a right to their own personal suffrage, but who has the right to use that personal suffrage for the destruction or withholding of mine? Am I to be denied my right to the suffrage by only my equal fellowman? Is he to deprive me of the exercise of my suffrage, by the usurping power of his; or is there any higher power to whom to appeal to settle the question? H. R. tells us that "the suffrage is the right of those who desire it, and can use it advantageously for the community to which he belongs." I cannot see what desire has to do with the principle of right—for example I have a complete and absolute natural right to bathe or wash myself in the sea—yet I may have no desire to wash or bathe in it—still my right to do so remains the same, and then, who are the parties who are to judge of my fitness for the exercise of the suffrage—assuming me to be of sound mind? Perhaps a set of men whose expansive views of humanity are such as to deem me unfit and dangerous to society on account of certain religious or social opinions—on account of my seeking to make every one as well to do in life as myself—they might see in my opinions or conduct something which was dangerous to their class—and by consequence to society, and deem me not only unfit to exercise the suffrage—but deserving the gallows or the hulks. Such has been the state of matters—aye, such is the state of matters at the present moment.

If H. R.'s views of this subject be correct, I am doubtful if there is any right in the case; it simply resolves itself into the rule of might being the rule of right—

"The good old plan
Of him to take who has the power,
And him to keep who can."

But, dropping the question of right, I would ask if the suffrage were exercised by every adult male, is it not reasonable to conclude that every elector would consult his own well-being in the exercise of it, and, if so, would not this result in what was best or most for the advantage of the community? I should think so, but again the question is asked—would each elector know what was best for his own welfare—or would the majority of the electors know it? I reply, they would at least have some inducement to find that out, and the greater probability is, that the majority would know what was best for their interests; or which out of a number of candidates was the fittest to legislate for the general well-being; and even if they did not, they would not be long in finding it out and retracing their steps. They would do this, because, to say nothing of duty, their interest would indicate their course; and I may add there is much more danger to society from knowing rogues with a restricted suffrage than from simple, well-intentioned ignorance with manhood suffrage, because the first is morally lost, but the latter, though they might have to grope their way, being morally sound, would find it in the end.

I am, yours, respectfully, P.

THE NATION'S SPRING.—There comes frequently a spring in the life of a people, when the inner life, as it were, bursts its bands and blossoms forth vigorously. These are the times when a people creates energetically for itself a living unity as a people, an eternal, undying genius with a peculiar existence, a peculiar mission in the history of mankind. And such a time does not come all at once, as by a stroke of magic. No! silent streams from the fountains of life, silent influences of the sun, quickening winds, storms, or zephyrs, prepare it long beforehand. So in this case. All the pure patriotism, all the great capacity of the humanly great; that which genius and virtue have effected through the men and women of Denmark; which the great kings of this little country, its warriors and poets have accomplished through the past centuries for the nation's honour, for the good of the people, for the advancement of this spring of which we speak, all this we must leave unmentioned; little, indeed, of it has the historian recorded in any case.—*Frederika Bremer's Easter Offering.*

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review.*

THERE is no more hopeful "sign of the times" than the growing strength and sweep of tolerance, the very heart's core of wisdom, which manifests itself daily in unexpected facts. To cite one typical example, *NEWMAN'S Phases of Faith* is to be had at the Circulating Libraries! The book which of all others most penetratingly and securely saps the foundation of reigning dogmas, which unequivocally says that the doctrine taught in Churches and high places is no longer the doctrine to animate men and society,—this book Englishmen are not only suffered to read, without having the finger of scorn pointed at them, but they may absolutely send to the library for it as for any of the "new publications." There is strength in a society which can suffer such things; there is hope for a nation which can listen to the words of earnest men, even when those men most oppose them. Compare such a spirit of tolerance with that which peremptorily stifled the first germ of inquiry in *ABELARD*, which two centuries later lighted up Europe with its fagots—the blazing beacons of a society terrified to its very depths—which even in our own recent days took *SHELLEY's* children from him, and has ruined the prospects, embittered the lives, and maddened the hearts of hundreds. Think of such a book as the *Phases of Faith* being openly cited, openly read, twenty years ago! We cannot despair when we know that such a spirit is abroad; when we know that the earnest intellects, without losing any earnestness, without losing even any dogmatism, are becoming more and more alive to the importance of absolute freedom in discussion, more and more alive to the fact that the moral qualities of men are not to be judged of according to any test of orthodoxy.

Absolute Freedom, or the Inquisition: if you are logical you have no other alternative! The right of free inquiry is absolute, or it is null. If any restrictions are to be placed on opinion, all restriction is justifiable, nay more, it is necessary. Blindness or open daylight, choose; twilight or coloured spectacles are feeble compromises, which can only end where all compromises end—in ruin. So true is it that the only alternative to absolute freedom is absolute interdiction, that in France at the present moment the "Party of Order," as with profound but unconscious irony it styles itself, is employing great eloquence and ingenuity in rehabilitating the Inquisition! and in Prussia the new laws of the press are even worse than the ancient censorship, virtually permitting Government to suppress any opinion it pleases.

Therefore we say to M. LEDRU ROLLIN, in answer to his second volume just published, *De la Décadence de l'Angleterre*, that England has greater prospects of a peaceful and glorious career before it than France has, if only for two fundamental reasons: We have a more thorough sense and practice of liberty of the press, and a more deep-rooted and familiar power and practice of self-government springing from a deeper sense of justice. But this is not the occasion for an argument. Having named LEDRU ROLLIN's second volume as the novelty in French literature, we may add that it is essentially a continuation of the volume already reviewed in our columns; with the same ability, the same one-sidedness, and the same purpose. There is much truth in his denunciations; but, when we see him so obstinately flattering France, we cannot but suspect his judgment. If England is in no very satisfactory condition, surely France is not more enviable. The book is a speech at a club—in two volumes, octavo.

The second volume of EUGENE SUE's last novel, *Les Enfants de l'Amour*, has appeared, and our readers may be glad to know that it is simply a novel, without any of M. SUE's recent excursions into the regions of philosophy and philanthropy: if it would not have gained *le prix Monthyon*, neither would it have presented the author to the electors of Paris.

The last *Revue des Deux Mondes* introduces to our notice a new authoress—a Dutchwoman. This is Mademoiselle TOUSSAINT, whose historical romance, *Leycester in Nederland*, is very flatteringly spoken of by M. J. J. AMPERE; but we fear Dutch is by no means a general accomplishment, and no translator has been found.

The Literary event in Germany has been the

solemn opening of the deposit consigned by GOETHE in 1827 to the authorities of Weimar, with directions for its opening on May 17, 1850, in presence of both his and SCHILLER'S heirs. FRAU VON GOETHE—his daughter-in-law—WALTHER and WOLFGANG, his grandsons, with FRAU VON JUNOT, and KARL VON SCHILLER were assembled. The contents were found to be the entire correspondence between the two great Poets—a portion of which has been published some years in 6 vols. octavo—mostly autographs. The whole collection is to be printed forthwith.

PEPE'S ITALIAN STRUGGLE.

Narrative of Scenes and Events in Italy, from 1847 to 1849, including the Siege of Venice. By Lieutenant-General Pepe, Commander-in-Chief, &c. In 2 vols. H. Colburn.

A WITTY and accomplished English novelist, whose grandfather came from Venice, has said, in mercy to the Italians, that "they were better than their reputation." He might have said both better and worse. Many of the virtues they get credit for, no less than many of the vices they are charged with, belong to the past—perhaps merely to the romance of the past. On a closer acquaintance, the Italians, like the rest of us all, will be found "no better and no worse than they should be."

General Pepe, for one, is undoubtedly as far above the moral as he is below the intellectual standard commonly assigned to his countrymen; a rare phenomenon of a man from Italy, whose heart is better than his head. More uprightness and consistency, truth and soldier-like candour and simplicity, are not to be found amongst the most genuine Teutons. But as for his statecraft and political foresight, the old Calabrian conspirator is little more than a very child.

So much for Italian talent for politics; so much for their inheritance of all the keen wisdom of Macchiavello.

General Pepe had concluded his memoirs in 1847. He was composing himself to leisure and comfort for his evening of life (being then on his sixty-fourth year) when the shadows of coming events, which, in good sooth, came upon him by surprise, made him aware that his task was not yet accomplished, and that "he should have more volumes to write."

He left Paris on the very first vague report of an outbreak at Milan. Upon his landing at Genoa, finding that matters were already "progressing" in the north, that Charles Albert had already crossed Ticino, and the Austrians were in full retreat to the Mincio, the General steered for Naples, reaching the latter city on the 29th of March. Here he had a narrow escape of being Prime Minister; but, once more taking to his former trade, he accepted the offer of a supreme command of a Neapolitan force destined for the national war into Lombardy.

At the time, be it remembered, Pepe and every man in Europe thought that the Neapolitan expedition was scarcely needed to make assurance doubly sure. The southern troops must march with great speed if they wish to be in time to see the last of the barbarians out of Italy; but the King and people of Naples thought it worth their while to try what share in the glory, perhaps in the profits, of the emancipation of Lombardy, would be secured by at least a show of good intentions, and the expedition was resolved upon.

It took the whole of April to fit it out. Pepe was at Bologna, with his head-quarters only on the 20th of May. On the 22nd he received orders for a countermarch. He disobeyed the Royal decree: was forsaken by the whole mass of his troops, and entered Lombardy at the head of two battalions of Neapolitan and other volunteers; with these he shut himself up in Venice, and there held the supreme sway of the defenders of the Lagoon, during that memorable fifteen months' siege.

Had Pepe limited himself to a recital of his own sayings and doings, to that part of his theme where he shines forth both as hero and historian, his book would have, with half its bulk, twice its importance. The remainder, the accounts of Charles Albert's disastrous campaigns, the revolutions of Palermo, Milan, Venice; the riots in Calabria, the slaughter in Brescia, the affairs of Tuscany and Rome are given not only on the faith, but in the very words of other witnesses, with a great variety not only of diligence and ability, but also of political views and convictions.

No less than ten chapters out of the twenty-seven have been contributed by other hands. We deem it

important to state the fact in justice to the work itself and its author, especially as some of our contemporaries, the *Athenæum* for one, have overlooked it, notwithstanding the notes and other declarations, by which the honest general tenders his acknowledgment to his fellow-labourers, and which stare at the critic at the beginning or end of each of the borrowed pieces.

By this kind of joint-stock production the General has endeavoured hastily and clumsily to get up a history of the last two years in Italy. But poor Pepe is anything rather than a historian; his "memoirs" are the only thing of value in his two volumes. The rest, worse than cumbersome.

In spite of a great deal of anile verbosity, and of childish, but extremely harmless egotism, in spite of his half-classical, half-sauscelottic view of the game of politics, we read him with breathless interest: a very different interest, indeed, to whatever could be a clue to the recital of his youthful exploits, published in 1847; for there the twaddle was distressingly elaborate, and the events related (the revolt of Naples in 1820) such as every lover of freedom, and every upholder of man's dignity, would wish to see eternally consigned to oblivion.

But in 1848 the Italians have saved, indeed restored, their honour. Any man coming out of Rome or Venice after an inevitable surrender has a right to be listened to: Pepe, of all men, whose evidence alone will set at rest our doubts on one or two points, and clear up much of the mystery of those cruel Italian disasters.

And first, as to the backward movement of the Neapolitans in May, 1848, which was the very first home-thrust at the cause of Italian independence, Pepe has Ferdinand's private and official documents in his hands, and he writes with full determination to spare no living being—less than all a King.

On his first interview with the King of Naples, when Pepe was trying to organise a Ministry of his own, he advised Ferdinand to grant a new constitution on a "broader basis;" he proposed the abolition of the Chamber of Peers, &c. The King would not listen to this, and, seeing the unseasonableness of internal reforms and improvements in times of open war, we must say that he evinced a sounder sense than his adviser.

The expedition to the north was then proposed—not by Pepe, be it remembered, though he would most certainly have recommended it—but by the King's Government. The fitting out of this armament did not keep pace with the General's own impatience; but we do not think a month too long a time for Neapolitan troops, kept as they always are in a state of proverbial improvidence and indiscipline. The King was loth to take the lead himself, as Pepe strongly recommended, and the army never reached the number of forty thousand combatants, agreeably to the original plan. In all this Pepe discovers symptoms of bad faith and lukewarmness on the King's part. Yet, if we reflect upon the unsettled state of the kingdom, the open war in Sicily, the dread of falling into utter helplessness in his own capital, we think that even a far better King than Ferdinand might have shown hesitation and perplexity. The war of independence was a necessity for him as it had been for the sovereigns of Piedmont, Rome, and Tuscany. Italy willed it, God willed it, but Naples was far away from the scene of action; Ferdinand's own share of the spoil could certainly never be so large as that which was sure to fall to the lot of his Piedmontese rival. On the other hand the ultra-Democrats, with Pepe at their head, who seemed to think an old despot may be won to their cause in two minutes, harassed him without ceasing, came to him with fresh demands every day, and made him too soon aware that the footfall of the last Austrian driven across the Alps would be the death-knell to all that remained of royalty in Italy.

It is impossible not to perceive that after the fatal events of February in Paris, the Italians repented their moderate and conciliatory course they had hitherto followed with their Princes, and that, able now to act without them, they were only anxious to get rid of them.

The expedition set out, nevertheless. Pepe found them at Ancona struggling against the obstacles which the pious Pope was everywhere raising on their way. He gathered them at Bologna, harangued them in the loftiest strain of confidence and assurance, notwithstanding the following precious docu-

ment which he held in his waistcoat pocket all the time:—

"Naples, May 3, 1848.

"EXCELLENCY.—I must beg your Excellency, on the arrival of the troops which the State has so worthily committed to your Excellency's charge, to confine yourself to concentrating them on the right bank of the Po, and there wait for instructions from the royal Government as to the active part they are to take in the present war, for the liberation of Italy from a foreign yoke.

"The most energetic measures are being taken in order to establish a convention among the Italian princes, to determine the part which our troops are to take in the said contest, whereupon your Excellency will receive instructions, perhaps before the troops are reunited; and you may rest assured that not an instant will be lost in informing you of the part assigned to them.

"Your Excellency will be pleased to inform the Royal Government, as often as possible, of all the movements made, whether partially or collectively, by the troops confided to your Excellency.

"For this purpose your Excellency is authorised to expedite couriers or officers in employment, either as far as Guglielmo, where we have a telegraph, or here, according to the importance of what you may have to communicate.

"The Minister Secretary of State for War and Marine.

(Signed) "RAFAELE DEL GIUDICE.

"To his Excellency Lieut.-Gen. Baron Guglielmo Pepe, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Expedition for Northern Italy."

Had Pepe made known the contents of this letter to the public, he says the King would inevitably have been assassinated; he contented himself, however, by putting away the despatch and considering it as not received.

This letter, however, does not contain sufficient proof of a determination on the part of the King to withdraw from the national contest. It must be remembered that at that time the success of the Piedmontese was universally looked upon as too rapid and certain. Consequently the King of Naples might, by relieving too soon, have suffered Charles Albert to carry all the honour and price of the liberation of Lombardy, and had to bear all the brunt of liberalism at home with the increase of unpopularity consequent on his dastardly defection. On the other hand, Ferdinand must, indeed, have felt sure of the hold he had on his troops, especially under such a general, if he could reckon on their implicit reliance whenever it were his pleasure to recall them from the path of honour and duty.

It must be kept in mind, also, that up to the fatal 15th of May, the King only acted by the advice of Ministers chosen from the popular ranks, amongst the most exalted patriots, and that jealousy of the Piedmontese success was a feeling, we are sorry and ashamed to confess, that prevailed in many a heart in Northern Italy, besides Ferdinand!

Well, from the date of that letter (May 3rd) to that of the final recall of the Neapolitan troops (May 18th) only a fortnight elapsed; but during that fortnight the King was attacked in his own palace, and had to struggle for existence.

Liberal papers have boldly asserted, it is true, that it was the King himself who attacked the people, and that the pretended insurrection of the 15th of May was the result of a plot of his own contrivance. We must not, however, lose sight of the fact that the King was almost disarmed; that in spite of the staunch fidelity, and intrepidity of the Swiss, he found himself more than once in a forlorn, and almost hopeless situation.

We are quite willing to go hand in hand with Ferdinand's enemies so long as they describe him as a thoroughly bad and base man; but not when they attribute to him a fineness and far-sightedness beyond that of any man; not when they attribute to him either the brains for plotting or the heart for hatching a *coup d'état*. No! No! he acted at random as almost every man did in 1848, and is even now thunderstruck at his own success, like his father and grandfather before him; that wretched King Bomba is nothing better than a sad mixture of the craven and imbecile.

Pepe himself, addicted as he is to see prodigies of kingcraft in all those blunderings of a distracted cabinet, thinks it impossible that the recall of the troops would be contemplated before the bloody doings of May 15. Even then, we think, the King was any thing but easy as to the reception his orders would meet with at the camp. That Pepe would be contumacious was tolerably certain. But Hubella, the commander under him, and vice-admiral De Cosa, a place-man, even though an old patriot, found it expedient to obey. "De Cosa obeyed with grief," says Pepe,—"but he obeyed;" the soldiers everywhere re-

belled against their "rebellious leader;" and all that Pepe's own partisans could bring into the Venetian territory was a battalion of rifles, who did good service during the siege of the Lagoons.

The willingness of the Neapolitan soldiery to comply with their King's good pleasure is easily accounted for. The example was given by the Twelfth of the Line, "which was chiefly formed of Sicilians taken from the galleys, and of pardoned highwaymen, who knowing themselves to be invidious to their countrymen, had placed all their hopes on the King's kindness."

From this time Pepe's own narrative ceases to belong to the great melancholy epic of Italian nationality, and is confined to its noblest episode—the siege of Venice.

That backward move of the Neapolitans dashed all Italian hopes to the ground. Pius IX., who acted with even more consummate perfidy and duplicity than Ferdinand, by whom, there is every reason to believe, the Neapolitan despot himself received the first hint of the conduct to be pursued, equally hastened to give the signal of retreat. (He, however, it is consoling to reflect, paid for his apostasy by an ignominious flight, and a long season of humiliation and chagrin.) The Venetian provinces were overrun; and Charles Albert, who was slumbering in treacherous security, found himself exposed on all sides.

Pepe shut himself up in Venice on the 13th of June; only five days after the Roman forces had been, after a splendid fight, compelled to surrender at Vicenza. During the whole of that and all the following month the Austrians, masters of all the Venetian *terra firma*, did not seriously think of investing Venice.

Highly interesting as the events of the siege must prove to the reader, we must refer him to the General's own account for particulars. It was a fight against all odds: what is more, a fight against hope. Hardly anything could turn up to avert the ultimate fate of Venice. Charles Albert was twice defeated; Piedmont laid at the conqueror's mercy. Naples walked more and more boldly in the way of dishonour. Rome and Tuscany plunged into their inevitable abyss of impotent anarchy. France herself led the van of reaction. Germany was lost in stunning amazement. Hungary twice prostrate on the field. Venice held on to the last. The defence of Malgheva, the frequent spirited sallies, the magnanimous endurance of all within, constitute a page of history such as Italy cannot boast of since the equally miraculous siege of Padua by all the imperial might of Maximilian of Austria, during the wars of the League of Combrail.

Without the Republican movement of Rome and Florence, there is every reason to believe that France, and perhaps England, would not have suffered Venice to fall into the hands of Austria without wresting fair terms in behalf of the conquered; though what arrangement might be made in favour of Venice, save only by uniting it to an independent Italian kingdom, we are at a loss to conceive. As a free city, cut off from all intercourse with Lombardy, she could not subsist for three months: subjected to Austria, she is only undergoing a slow death, crushed by the paramount importance of her insolent rival, the upstart Trieste.

As late as September, 1848, the French contemplated an expedition to Venice, as we may see from the following:—

"The French republic had determined on sending 4000 men to Venice, as will appear from a letter of the Duke d'Harcourt, which I transcribe:—

"Rome, 9th September, 1848.

"DEAR GENERAL,—I wrote to you two days ago; to-day I will tell you that we are very discontented with the bad faith of the Austrians in the negotiations, and there is reason to believe that they are broken off.

"Several ships of war, and 4000 men are being sent from Venice to be disembarked at Trieste.

"Hold firm till their arrival; it is through you perhaps, at least I hope it, that the salvation of Italy will be effected.

"Your devoted,

"HARCOURT."

"The arrival of the above-named troops would have changed the aspect of affairs in all Italy, and consequently in all Germany, but fortune was not with us."

Only a few months later the French armament received orders to start, we all know too well, on what errand.

Pepe's narrative is wound up by a profession of faith, which is sufficiently striking and important, coming as it does from a man of unimpeached honesty and straightforwardness. He loudly proclaims

himself a Republican, as every Italian, we verily believe, is, at heart, and must be, if he draws his inspirations from the historical associations of his country. But, although gifted with anything but deep perceptive faculties, the General repeatedly bows to the necessity of compromise and transitional measures. "In the midst of apparent contradictions," says he, "my aim has ever been Italian independence." It equally was, and is, every man's aim throughout that country. Not one of Italy's sons, during the late vicissitudes, has played false to the national cause, except from erroneous impressions. This is not a little to be said in honour of a trampled and scattered nation.

The whole distance between Pepe and the Neapolitan rioters of the 15th of May—the whole difference between D'Azeglio and Mazzini—is simply this, that the former hope to march to their goal by gradual and practical progress, the latter will carry it at one stroke and by storm.

Those think it expedient to take the world as it is, to work with such materials as are at hand, to reconcile all parties, all ranks, and bring them to coöperate to an object of common interest: these mistrust and detest, and insist upon the demolition of all that exists—they place their faith in God and the people, and rely upon a strength of will that is to rise superior to all obstacles. It is matter of expediency on the one side, of consistency on the other.

It seems difficult not to see that success can only be secured by the submission of one principle to the other. Either could save Italy, were it only acted upon with one mind and heart throughout the country. "In reference to past events, I blame those," the General concludes, "who, instead of encouraging Charles Albert, deserted him on inopportune pretexts. I blame the patriots in Naples who ran to arms on the 15th of May. But towards each I should add that where their intentions were right, my blame is that of a brother."

We say amen from our own heart, and upon intimate convictions that the gravity of circumstances, the suddenness and multiplicity of events were such as to bewilder the coolest and clearest heads.

Those who love Italy, no matter what party they belong to, will have sufficient reason for disappointment and deep sorrow, sufficient reason to mistrust the soundness of their judgment and to deplore the results of their blindness and obstinacy. All, perhaps, have erred, would they only acknowledge it; they all pay a common penalty, all involved in one common doom. Let them profit by the bitter experiment. Let them learn mutual indulgence and forbearance, and let them give an earnest of their readiness to sacrifice gold and blood for their country by a prompt denial of self-love, and abatement of all exaggerated and bigoted opinions. Nothing in human politics can be plainer than the to-be-or-not-to-be cause of Italian nationality. It has ever been lost by a fatal association with other idle and complicate questions.

YOUNG RUSSIA.

The Tarantass. Travelling Impressions of Young Russia. By Count Sollogub. With Eight Illustrations. Chapman and Hall.

AMUSING but slight; the work of a foreigner who writes English well, but without the ease and felicity of a native. We notice the style because the texture is so slight; were the matter more substantial we should care less for the form.

Travellers—English, French, and German—have told us more about Russia than Count Sollogub seems disposed to communicate; nor does he add anything to their information. As a satire his work is deficient in point; as a picture of Russian life it wants fullness. Nevertheless it reads pleasantly enough, and does raise the veil in one or two places, as in this description of

A RUSSIAN WEDDING.

"But in St. Petersburg, friend, a wedding is a half-way to bankruptcy. I think there is in the whole world not another place except St. Petersburg where, approaching to happiness, you beforehand try wilfully to spoil happiness, and preparing yourself for ease, you sometimes annihilate all possibility of being at your ease. In St. Petersburg custom is law; however absurd the general custom is, you must follow it. We have for everything conventional rules as stringent as visiting and bowing. In this manner, then, a bridegroom takes upon himself to imitate the universal ridiculous extravagance without regarding his means. In the first place come the usual presents: his portrait by Sokolow,* a diamond bracelet,

a sentimental bracelet, a Turkey shawl,* a diamond trinket, besides innumerable glittering costly trifles from the English magazine; then the bridegroom is obliged to furnish anew, from garret to cellar, a house which is not his own; to fill it with costly shrubs and flowers, lent on hire; to set up elegant carriages, thorough-bred horses, and solid silver harness; he must dress his whole household in new gold-laced liveries; must buy new plate, new bronzes, new china; must prepare himself to give gorgeous banquets, and, scarcely married, he remarks that he has nothing left to pay for the banquets. As for the bride's father, he furnishes the bedroom of the newly-married couple in such a princely style as to give to the bridegroom an example for the folly he has to pursue; besides, he fills chests of drawers and presses, trunks and boxes, with all kinds of frippery, which, under the name of the dowry, sweeps away an enormous sum, and, having done all this, he presents the bridegroom the next day after the wedding with—his entire confidence: he avows with the utmost candour that life in St. Petersburg is very expensive; that his French cook ruins him; that he has bad luck at cards, and concludes his confession with the remark that the newly-married couple must wait his decease before they can enjoy the promised annuity. Rather disappointed by such an unexpected revelation, the son-in-law, on his part, likewise acknowledges the bad position of his circumstances, and before a week has past quarrels for ever with his new relatives."

Here is glimpse of life not peculiar to Russia:—

"It is a dreadful confession, friend, but in the present state of St. Petersburg life it is not only impossible to uphold your dignity, but even, strictly taken, it is almost impossible to remain an honest man: above everything, and at any cost, you must obtain money and spend it for rubbish. You are dancing in the evening, and in the morning your ante-room is crowded with creditors, usurers, and other visitors of the same class; you mortgage, you sell, you borrow; you put your name to bills of exchange and notes of hand; you sell trinkets, horses, plate, shawls: you curse your existence and want to lay violent hands upon it; you are in despair and tempted to send a ball through your brains; and amidst all these tortures you still remain laced, and scented, and curled, you bow, pay and receive visits, whilst you are firmly persuaded that no one likes you, and that every body is laughing at you."

NEWMAN'S PHASES OF FAITH.

Phases of Faith; or, Passages from the History of my Creed. By Francis William Newman. John Chapman.

(Fourth Notice.)

To the fifth period in this strange and painful evolution Mr. Newman assigns the title of "Faith at Second Hand found to be Vain." He had lost his faith in the Letter; he had seen the error of "historical evidences;" he was now to see that the faith which we repose in men who profess to have received the divine command at first hand is open to manifest difficulties, and will not bear examination. He asked himself whether he ought to receive moral truth in obedience to a miracle, or, conversely, was he to believe in miracles because they recommend some moral truth:—

"I found in the Bible itself,—and even in the very same book, as in the Gospel of John,—great uncertainty and inconsistency on this question. In one place, Jesus reproves the demand of a miracle, and blesses those who believe without miracles; in another, he requires that they receive his doctrine (and submit to it as little children) because of his miracles. Now this is intelligible, if blind external obedience is the end of religion, and not Truth and inward Righteousness. An ambitious and unscrupulous Church, that desires, by fair means or foul, to make men's minds bow down to her, may say, 'Only believe, and all is right. The end being gained—Obedience to us—we do not care about your reasons.' But God cannot speak thus to man; and to a divine teacher we should peculiarly look for aid in getting clear views of the grounds of faith; because it is by a knowledge of these that we shall both be rooted on the true basis, and saved from the danger of false beliefs.

"It therefore peculiarly vexed me to find so total a deficiency of clear and sound instruction in the New Testament, and eminently in the Gospel of John, on so vital a question. The more I considered it, the more it appeared as if Jesus were solely anxious to have people believe in Him without caring on what grounds they believed, although that is obviously the main point. When to this was added the threat of 'damnation' on those who did not believe, the case became far worse: for I felt that if such a threat were allowed to operate, I might become a Mohammedan or a Roman Catholic. Could I in any case rationally assign this as a ground for believing in Christ?—because I am frightened by his threats?"

Nay more, it became quite clear that if we are to allow the propagator of a new creed to dictate our logic, there would be no reasonable objection to be made to Islamism or Hindooism; and it further seemed necessary to know if we are to accept results at second hand from Paul and John:—

"What was the sort of evidence which convinced them? The moment this question is put we see the essential defect to which we are exposed, in not being able to cross-examine them. Paul says that 'Christ appeared

* A Turkey shawl is considered as an indispensable article in the trousseau of a young lady who has the least pretence to fashion. Its price varies, and often is as high as £300 or £400 sterling.

* An eminent portrait-painter to the Imperial Family.

to him: elsewhere, that he has 'received of the Lord' certain facts concerning the Holy Supper: and that his Gospel was 'given to him by revelation.' If any modern made such statements to us, and on this ground demanded our credence, it would be allowable, and indeed obligatory, to ask many questions of him. What does he mean by saying that he has had a 'revelation'? Did he see a sight, or hear a sound? or was it an inward impression? and how does he distinguish it as divine? Until these questions are fully answered, we have no materials at all before us for deciding to accept his results; to believe him merely because he is earnest and persuaded would be judged to indicate the weakness of inexperience. How then can it be pretended that we have, or can possibly get, the means of assuring ourselves that the apostles held correct principles of evidence and applied them justly, when we are not able to interrogate them? I farther inquired what sort of miracle I could conceive that would alter my opinion on a moral question. Hosea was divinely ordered to go and unite himself to an impure woman: could I possibly think that God ordered me to do so, if I heard a voice in the air commanding it? Should I not rather disbelieve my hearing than disown my moral preceptions? If not, where am I to stop? I may practise all sorts of heathenism. A man who, in obedience to a voice in the air, kills his innocent wife or child will either be called mad, and shut up for safety, or will be hanged as a desperate fanatic: do I dare to condemn this modern judgment of him? Would any conceivable miracle justify my slaying my wife? God forbid! It must be morally right to believe moral rather than sensible perceptions. No outward impressions on the eye or ear can be so valid an assurance to me of God's will as my inward judgment. How amazing, then, that Paul and James could look on Abraham's intention to slay his son as indicating a praiseworthy faith!—And yet not amazing; it does but show that these apostles, like ourselves, scrutinized antiquity with different eyes from modern events. If Paul had been ordered by a supernatural voice to slay Peter, he would have attributed the voice to the devil, 'the prince of the power of the air,' and would have despised it. He praises Abraham, but he certainly would never have imitated him. Just so the modern divines who laud Joseph's piety towards Mary, would be very differently affected if events and persons were transported to the present day."

Incidentally Mr. Newman glances at a question which is of immense historical importance, but which we have never yet seen adequately treated—it is the question of the Influence of Christianity upon our Civilization. People perpetually and authoritatively assert that we owe our present superiority, moral and intellectual, to the doctrines of Christianity; that it is Christianity which makes us superior to Greeks, Romans, and Indians. This is the current opinion. While far from denying the superiority of Christianity, we must question the historical validity of such an assumption. To identify Christianity with all that is good in Christian nations is a facile but unphilosophic procedure. It has only been one element—a most important one we admit—amidst the various elements of our civilization. It has accompanied and hastened our progress, it has not made the progress. Mr. Newman says:—

"Even a superficial survey of the history shows that the first improvement of spiritual doctrine in the dark ages came from a study of the moral works of Cicero and Boethius—a fact notorious in the common historians. The Latin moralists effected what (strange to think!) the New Testament could not do.

"In the fifteenth century, when Constantinople was taken by the Turks, learned Greeks were driven out to Italy and to other parts of the west, and the Roman Catholic world began to read the old Greek literature. All historians agree that the enlightenment of mind hence arising was the real origin of the Reformation; and learned Protestants of Germany have even believed that this great event would have been brought about more equably and profoundly if Luther had never lived, and the passions of the vulgar had never been stimulated against the externals of Romanism.

"At any rate it gradually opened upon me that the free cultivation of the understanding which Latin and Greek literature had imparted to Europe, were the chief causes of our comparative religious purity. The Greeks in Constantinople had been slaves. Without free intellect, the works of their fathers did their souls no good: so in Europe, just in proportion to the freedom of learning, has been the force of the result. In Spain and Italy such studies were nearly extinguished; in France and Austria they were crippled; in Protestant countries they have been freest. And then we impute all their effects to the Bible!

"I at length saw how untenable is the argument drawn from the inward history of Christianity in favour of its superhuman origin. In fact, this religion cannot pretend to self-sustaining power. Hardly was it started on its course, when it began to be polluted by the heathenism and false philosophy around it. With the decline of national genius and civil culture it became more and more debased. So far from being able to uphold the existing morality of the best Pagan teachers, it became barbarized itself, and sank into deep superstition and manifold moral corruption. From ferocious menit learnt ferocity. When civil society began to coalesce into order, Christianity also turned for the better, and presently learned to use the wisdom of Latin moralists. By gradual and human means, Europe, like ancient Greece, grew up towards better political institutions; and Christianity improved with them—the Christianity of the more educated. Beyond Europe, where there have been

no such institutions, there has been no Protestant Reformation—that is, in the Greek, Armenian, Syrian, Coptic churches. Not unreasonably then do Franks in Turkey disown the title Nazarene as denoting that Christianity which has not been purified by European laws and European learning. Christianity rises and sinks with political and literary influences: in so far it does not differ from other religions."

He examines also the outward spread of Christianity, refuting the current assertion that to its moral influence alone has its empire been due:—

"It had a great moral superiority over Roman paganism, in its humane doctrine of universal brotherhood, its unworldliness, its holiness: consequently it attracted to itself (among other and baser materials) all the purest natures and most enthusiastic temperaments: its first conquests were noble and admirable. But there is nothing superhuman or unusual in this. Mohammedism in the same way conquers those Pagan creeds which are morally inferior to it. The Seljuk and the Ottoman Turks were Pagans, but adopted the religion of Tartars and Persians, whom they subjugated, because it was superior, and was blended with a superior civilization; exactly as the German conquerors of the Western Empire of Rome adopted some form of Christianity.

"But if it is true that the sword of Mohammed was the influence which subjected Arabia, Egypt, Syria, and Persia to the religion of Islam, it is no less true that the Roman empire was first conquered to Christianity by the sword. Before Constantine, Christians were but a small fraction of the empire. In the preceding century they had gone on deteriorating in good sense, and most probably, therefore, in moral worth, and had made no such rapid progress in numbers as to imply that by the mere process of conversion they would ever Christianize the empire. In fact, it was the Christian soldiers in Constantine's army who conquered the empire for Christianity; and finally, the sword of Theodosius violently suppressed heathen worship. So also, it was the spear of Charlemagne which drove the Saxons to baptism, and decided the extirpation of Paganism from Teutonic Europe. There is nothing in all this to distinguish the outward history of Christianity from that of Mohammedism."

He refutes also the notions that Christianity has raised the influence of woman, and abolished slavery:—

"Not one of the Christian apostles," he says, "even opens his lips at all against slavery. Paul sent back the fugitive Onesimus to his master Philemon, with kind recommendations and apologies for the slave, but without a hint to the master that he ought to make him legally free. At this day, in consequence, the New Testament is the argumentative stronghold of those in the United States of America, who are trying to keep up the accursed system. Indeed, for several centuries in which Christianity acted in the Roman empire, it developed no recorded and public opposition to slavery as an institution. The humanity of good Pagan emperors softened the harshness of the laws of bondage, and manumission was common; but that slavery, as a system, is essentially immoral, no Christian of those days appears to have suspected. Yet it existed in its worst forms under Rome. Whole gangs of slaves were mere tools of capitalists, and were numbered like cattle, with no moral relationship to the owner; and young women of beautiful person were sold as articles of voluptuousness.

"Zal for the liberation of serfs in Europe first rose in the breasts of the clergy, after the whole population had become nominally Christian. It was not men, but Christians, that the clergy of the Middle Ages desired to make free. This was creditable, but not peculiar. Mohammedans also have a conscience against enslaving Mohammedans, and often bestow freedom on a slave as soon as he adopts their religion. Moreover, the desire of the kings to raise the chartered cities as an arm against their barons, was that which chiefly made rustic slavery untenable in its coarsest form, for a 'villain' who escaped into the free cities could not be recovered. In later times the first public act against slavery came from republican France, in the madness of atheistic enthusiasm, when she declared black and white men to be equally free, and liberated the negroes of Domingo. In Britain the battle of social freedom has been fought chiefly by that religious sect which rests least on the letter of the Scripture; nor indeed will any wise advocate of black freedom deal much in quoting texts."

Nothing can be more demonstrable. Even Guizot admits that "Christianity never—either on its first appearance or during the early ages of its power—addressed itself to the social condition of mankind; it openly announced that it would not meddle in such matters; it ordered the slave to obey his master; it attacked none of the great evils, none of the flagrant abuses of society in that day." (*Civilization Europe*. Leçon I.) Indeed a profound investigation of history must result in the conviction that religion, so far from being the parent of our present civilization, has never at any period been sufficient alone to cope with the great evils of society. It was not Christianity that emancipated the slaves. The great apostles of Emancipation were doubtless men of deep piety, and greatly aided their cause by enlisting Christianity on their side; but many of the eloquent advocates were not Christians. Nor are the preachers of Fraternity and Equality in France, Germany, and England to be called Christians for the most part. To take a more striking and less complex example as furnished by Condorcet:—When

the Church was in its plenitude of power, and thundered against the sin of duelling as leading to eternal perdition, duels were frightfully frequent. Custom—the opinion of the world—was more powerful than the Church with all its prospective terrors. Yet now, when the Church has no longer a tithe of that power, duels are extremely rare; because with us the military spirit has been replaced by the industrial spirit, which not countenancing duelling, public opinion uproots the evil. It is perfectly clear that Christianity did not—could not—abolish duelling; perfectly clear that Christianity condemns it as a sin; and perfectly clear that, because writers have called it unchristian, they believe that it is owing to Christianity that it has disappeared. In truth, Christianity is a term of equivocal use. Very often it is taken as the sum total of our culture: it is identified with our civilization, and we are then asked if it has not given us the blessings of civilization?—a strange method of reasoning! But if Christianity be the doctrine taught in the New Testament, and only that, then we say it is not to Christianity that we entirely owe our civilization; for the doctrine itself bears no application in many instances, and, even where it seems most directly to bear, does not, and cannot of itself, determine the result. It is often asserted that the superiority shown in the fact that the Christian nations have a progressive civilization, while the Mahometans show scarcely any progress, is solely attributable to the doctrine of Christianity. We doubt this. In the first place, a progressive civilization is shown in Greece and Rome quite as conclusive in favour of polytheism over the monotheism of the East. In the next place, the very fact of the Mahometans not being progressive tells against the argument by showing how independent religion is of the various forces which impel civilization. Moreover, if to Christianity alone this progress is attributable, how does it come to pass that the Armenians, Copts, Greeks, and Syrians, who have the Christian doctrine as well as ourselves, have been no more progressive than the Moslems they reside among?

This question, which we can only open here without the space to do it adequate justice, is one of immense importance, not merely in historical science, but also in practical result. We should like to see Mr. Newman grappling with it. Meanwhile we must reserve for our next number the concluding remarks upon his "Phases of Faith."

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

Pictorial Half Hours. Edited by Charles Knight. Part I. C. Knight.

A marvel of cheapness, and only possible after an enormous expenditure upon woodcuts for other works. Charles Knight has published so many and such various illustrated books, cyclopedias, penny magazines, &c., that he has of course an unrivalled collection of "blocks" on almost all subjects. *Pictorial Half Hours* is a project for selecting some seven or eight hundred of these (including some that are to be new) with a definite purpose, and accompanied by brief letter press descriptions. It is likely to be one of his most successful speculations; for, although some of the woodcuts are, it must be confessed, deplorably bad, many of them are exquisite, and all useful.

The Imperial Cyclopædia. Part II. C. Knight.

Besides maps of Australasia, Dublin, and Edinburgh, this part contains engravings of the principal buildings in the two last named cities. The articles, "Bengal" and "Birmingham," are admirable, full, yet brief.

Washington Irving's Works. (Bohn's Shilling Series.) H. G. Bohn.

What needs there to be said in favour of the graceful style, the charming spirit, and the artistic completeness of Washington Irving's works? He is the only American writer of Belles Lettres whom Europe has accepted; and his fame is European. A style perfectly fascinating in its felicity of diction, easy idiomatic grace of evolution, and rhythmic melody; a fancy at once sportive and airy; observation delicate and minute; great powers of narrative; and a generous genial disposition, make him one of the few writers for whom the public conceives a personal affection. He belongs to a class which no longer exists, and takes his rank somewhere between Addison and Goldsmith. The *Sketch Book* and *Bracebridge Hall* are among our "Household Words." Who ever forgot "The Stout Gentleman" or "Rip Van Winkle"? Who that has lingered over those glowing *Legends of the Conquest of Spain and Granada* can forget their southern splendour and romantic beauty? The public has reason to be grateful to Mr. Bohn for presenting them with Irving's works in so handsome and so cheap a form. But their publication recalls forcibly to our minds the wretched state which "competition" is driving the publishers into. At this moment three or four booksellers are issuing rival editions of the same works and at the same price, thereby materially injuring each other. Surely, instead of rivalry there could be some mutual understanding! Say that three men are each determined on reprinting Hume's History of England for a shilling, would it not manifestly be wiser and for all parties more

profitable, for these three to combine together and publish only one edition instead of three editions? Each might thus secure a good profit. But if each has to undertake the same expenses which would suffice for one, the waste must be considerable. Fifteen thousand copies sold would leave a profit for all three; but if the three publish independently, and each sell five thousand, the public will be supplied no better, and each publisher will sustain a heavy loss.

We are moralizing for the reader's benefit. Our words are vain in the ears of publishers, who would never think of combining together. But we could not resist the temptation of pointing out the effect of competition as exhibited in the cheap reprints of the day, and of showing what co-operation would do were it tried.

Elisabeth Christine, Königin von Preussen. Eine Biographie von I. W. von Hahnke. Berlin. London, Franz Thümm.

Many characters move in Vanity Fair, and particularly in its domestic departments, of whose history it would be sufficient to know that they have been faithful, good, and affectionate. An especial biography of a woman is only justifiable if an elevated position has given her a field of action, in which she has distinguished herself, or if she has influenced her time by her superior qualities. But Elisabeth Christine has neither distinguished herself, nor has she had the slightest influence on the great King; she was, on his side, that good cipher which required really no special history. Her name, "Consort of Frederick the Great," was as great a title as she could have ever enjoyed. The history of this Queen appears, therefore, to have been written by royal command; for it is dedicated to the King and the Queen of Prussia, and written by a German nobleman.

Elisabeth Christine, a princess of Brunswick, became the consort of Frederick the Great, and, although morally separated from the King, she used to do the honour of the Prussian Court, and was distinguished for her virtue and attachment to the great hero of the seven years' war. Her history might, therefore, have been written, with all the requisite documents, in twenty pages, whilst we have here a volume of 500 pages before us, filled up with worthless documents, and with a very heavy biography, almost impossible to penetrate, impossible to read, on account of the meagreness of its incidents, and the utter imbecility of its detail. Indeed the book contains nothing but court gossip and a kind of diary, which was scarcely worth reprinting.

The Life, Character, and Genius of Ebenezer Elliott, the Corn-law Rhymer. By January Searle, Author of *Leaves from Sherwood Forest*, &c. London, Gilpin. Edinburgh, Black. Dublin, Gilpin.

Though this small volume does not pretend to contain more than a mere sketch of the character and writings of the Laureate of Free Trade, yet it is written with so much spirit and energy that it interests us as much as we doubt not it did the audience at Leeds, to which it was originally delivered. Elliott's name has been a "household word" for years in those districts, where the battle of Freedom has long been fought, and where the most strenuous efforts are still making for its achievement; and the affectionate manner in which January Searle delights to speak of his hero must meet with ready response from those in whose hearts he is enshrined as the Champion of Progress in every shape. Commending the wish to our readers, we will content ourselves with giving as an extract the last notes sung on earth by the Poet, and the closing remarks of his biographer:—

"Thy notes, sweet Robin, soft as dew,
Heard soon or late, are dear to me;
To music I could bid adieu,
But not to thee.

When from my eyes this life's full throng
Has passed away, no more to be;
Then Autumn's primrose, Robin's song,
Return to me."

"And thus, in strains of gentle music, did the spirit of our brave Poet pass away for ever from the earth. Those who knew him best loved him most, and will feel for some time yet to come as if, in his death, 'some great wrong' had been done them. Time, however, will bring with it its own wisdom, and convert this private and apparent wrong into universal justice, which all shall see and acknowledge. In the meanwhile let us be thankful for the rich legacy which the Poet has left us in his songs, and for the example which he has set us of a life lived for a purpose."

Hope Leslie. By Miss Sedgwick. (The Railway Library.) G. Routledge.

One of the very best of American tales in readable type for a shilling!

Constructive Exercises for Teaching the Elements of the Latin Language on a System of Analysis and Synthesis, with Latin Reading Lessons. By John Robson, B.A. Second edition, revised. Taylor and Walton.

We have carefully examined this work, wherein the student is led "slowly but sure" from the simplest up to the more complex forms of Latin construction, and can recommend it as the best work of the kind that has fallen in our way. Simplicity of arrangement and distinctness of plan have produced what the teacher and the student will soon discover to be an excellent work.

Socialism Unmasked. By Charles Conrad. (Slater's Home Library.) George Slater.

The Autobiography of Leigh Hunt, with Reminiscences of Friends and Contemporaries. In 3 vols. Smith and Elder.

Memoirs of the War of Independence in Hungary. By General Klapka. In 2 vols. With portraits of Kossuth and Klapka. C. Gilpin.

The Course of Creation. By John Anderson, D.D., Minister of Newburgh. Longman and Co.

Novello's Part-Song Book. Nos. 2 and 3. J. A. Novello.
The Musical Times and Singing-Class Circular. J. A. Novello.
Novello's Cheap Edition of Oratorios. Parts for May and June, J. A. Novello.

El Dorado; or, Adventures in the Path of Empire. By Bayard Taylor. 2 vols. (The Popular Library.) G. Routledge.

Observations on the Indian Post-office, with a Map of Routes throughout British India. By Captain N. Staples. Smith and Elder.

NOTES AND EXTRACTS.

THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN.—Women are supposed to be very calm generally; but women feel just as men feel; they need exercise for their faculties, and a field for their efforts, as much as their brothers do; they suffer from too rigid a restraint, too absolute a stagnation, precisely as men would suffer; and it is narrow-minded in their more privileged fellow-creatures to say that they ought to confine themselves to making puddings and knitting stockings, to playing on the piano and embroidering bags. It is thoughtless to condemn them, or laugh at them, if they seek to do more or learn more than custom has pronounced necessary for their sex.—*Currier Bell.*

THE ENGLISH APPETITE FOR NEWS.—The city clerk emerging through folding-doors from bed to sitting-room, though thising for tea, and hungering for toast, darts upon that morning's journal with an eagerness, and unfolds it with a satisfaction, which show that all his wants are gratified at once. Exactly at the same hour, his master, the M.P., crosses the hall of his mansion. As he enters the breakfast-parlour, he fixes his eye on the fender, where he knows his favourite damp sheep will be hung up to dry.—When the noble lord first rings his bell, does not his valet know that, however tardy the still-room-maid may be with the early coffee, he dares not appear before his lordship without the *Morning Post*? Would the minister of state presume to commence the day in town till he has opened the *Times*, or in the country till he has perused the *Globe*? Could the oppressed farmer handle the massive spoon for his first sip out of his Sèvres cup till he has read of ruin in the *Herald* or *Standard*? Might the juvenile Conservative open his lips to imbibe old English fare or to utter Young England opinions, till he has glanced over the *Chronicle*? Can the financial reformer know breakfast-table happiness till he has digested the *Daily News*, or skimmed the *Express*? And how would it be possible for mine host to commence the day without keeping his customers waiting till he has perused the *Advertiser* or the *Sun*? In like manner the provinces cannot—once a week at least—satisfy their digestive organs till their local organ has satisfied their minds.—*Dickens's "Household Words."*

THE RICH AND THE POOR.—Many of those who called themselves friends of the poor were always declaiming against the rich, as if the very existence of their riches was an injury to the poor. Now, who were the rich? In most instances the descendants of the industrious and saving poor. They might think that a strange and bold assertion, but let them consider. It is true that a great many centuries back the lands of England were wrested out of the hands of their lawful owners, and bestowed upon those who had done nothing but fight for them. But very few of these estates were now in the families of the old Norman soldiers, who then received them. They had been sold and mortgaged—to whom? To those who by patient industry, a little and a little laid by from time to time, had acquired wherewithal to purchase them, and then had left them to their children; and surely, instead of grudging them this reward of their toil, it would be better to imitate their patience and frugality. Hereditary fortunes are the result of accumulated labour. "By the sweat of the brow shall man eat bread," was the decree of the world's Governor, and this decree has ever been an inevitable law. Either we labour ourselves or our fathers labour for us, and we enter into their labours. And accumulated labour, instead of being a curse, is a very great blessing, because it sets some men free to attend to the concerns of the community, which must go to wreck if every one were living from hand to mouth.—*Compton Merivale.*

The Arts.

THE LYRIC DRAMA.

The amazing preliminary flourish of trumpets which ushered in Halévy's new opera was fully responded to by the clang and noise of the orchestra itself, but that is the only noise it is likely to make. M. Halévy ranks high with the admirers of the modern French school; higher than with us, who have not been wont to regard that school as an improvement upon the great German and Italian masters; and, judging his work by principles formed in a lifelong acquaintance with those masters, we are forced to declare that in *La Tempesta* we discovered no original melody, and but few of those enchanting harmonic effects which betray profound learning and skill. There is not a single scene of real dramatic power. The subject gave the composer scope; he has filled it with noise and commonplace.

The introduction is a musical puzzle. It gives no idea whatever of the forthcoming drama; it strikes no key-note in the mind; and, with the exception of one old-fashioned motive, is dull, heavy, disjointed, and unintelligible. The music assigned to *Prospero*—admirably sung by Coletti—bears no affinity whatever to the grand conception of Shakespeare's magician; nor does that intended to portray the grace of his dainty "Ariel" convey any feeling to our minds of the fantastic trickery spirit; no fault, however, lies with Carlotta, who danced to perfection! Madame Sontag's "Miranda"

was a wonderful display of vocalization: the daring flights of M. Halévy's fancy were daringly followed, and with complete success. The burden of the opera rest on the ample shoulders of Lablache, who gave all the power of his unrivalled talents as actor and singer, and saved the poverty of the music. His drunkenness was masterly, and the drinking-song shook the house with plaudits. If only to see that creation, *La Tempesta* should not be left unseen and unheard. But the music will pass away, leaving not a memory behind. It is a compound of Bellini, Auber, Meyerbeer, and Halévy, very ambitious but very mediocre.

The house was crowded, and all the braves of success saluted it; nay more, the morning critics have outdone each other in hyperbole. Could we believe them, we should believe another Weber or Mozart had been discovered in M. Halévy. If so, it is in a French translation!

THE DRAMA.

A FEW words will suffice to chronicle the doings, or want of doings, at other theatres; they run upon translations, of course. At the *Strand*, Mr. Barnett has made a bold attempt on Schiller's *Kabale and Liebe*, in the shape of a three-act drama, called *Power and Principle*; and, at the *Haymarket*, Mr. Webster has translated a French piece, which he calls *None but the Brave Deserve the Fair*; both have been successful. Regnier's farewell performances at the French Plays have been greatly relished; and all the lovers of grand tragic acting will rejoice to hear that Rachel is soon to appear.

Progress of Science.

MAGNETIC POWER.—The magnet which was shown at the *soirée* of the President of the Royal Society was said to be the most powerful ever made; it carried twenty-seven times its own weight, that is, twenty-five pounds. Its own weight was somewhat less than a pound. It was exhibited previously by Professor Faraday at the Royal Institution, when it was explained to carry a weight equal to double the adopted formula for magnets. It was made at Haarlem by Mr. Elias, whose method does not seem to be made public.

TELEGRAPH TO AMERICA.—The formation of electric telegraph communication between this country and North America has not been abandoned, and it is very curious, indeed, how the reiteration of the possibility makes a kind of belief come over us that, after all, it may not be so absurd. A man may be a very sensible man and yet oppose it, and he need not be ashamed of himself either if he should find himself mistaken. The longest wire which will be found necessary is said to be 1600 miles, and the expense not by any means immoderate. He calculates on the wire not going above two miles deep even if it should touch the bottom all the way, and probably one mile will be the utmost. After all what does it matter what depth it is out of a length of 1600 miles, a few miles deviation from the straight line cannot be a matter of importance except in the act of laying down, at which period several difficulties might probably be met with which in shallow water would be easily got over. Again, however, if this be the difficulty it is just the one which Mr. Wilkes must get over in order to show his powers; and he believes he can get over it. We are afraid to sneer at it as some people do lest he should turn round some day and sneer at us, and we should find out that we had hindered the progress of truth instead of advancing it according to our professions.

GAS FROM WATER.—A New York paper repeats the assertion that gas is made from water by Mr. Paine, of Worcester, at a price marvellously cheap. The water is decomposed by a galvanic current, and this current is produced by a mechanical power. The prime mover in producing this power is said to be a weight: sixty-seven pounds falling nine feet in an hour is capable of producing as much electric force as will make 1000 cubic feet of gas. As hydrogen gives no light, it is previously carbonized, so as to make the flame white and brilliant. For the production of heat it is burnt without carbon, and is found very effective and cheap. This is a power very much wanted, and it is curious how we are tantalized a long time by such discoveries before we can really get a firm hold of them. With such a power we could light our fires without inconvenience, burn them without smoke, and extinguish them at once without fear of anything remaining sufficient to endanger the house in manufacturing; and we might feel ourselves pretty safe from destructive fires. The poorest might have a warm fire, and no man henceforth be shivered with cold in his own home, and the air above London or Manchester might be as clear as over a village. So many other channels would flow from it, that we are less able to believe as we continue to consider how the world would be changed; in all probability coals would no longer be carried by steam-boats, freights would be cheap and emigration easy. We fear to paint the picture which our fancy suggests, lest we should be obliged to come back to our murky abode in London.

NEW GUNPOWDER.—A new explosive mixture has come from a place once famous for fire, Constantinople. It is not probable that it will ever be in general use as a gunpowder; but a discovery from such a place, although by a Frenchman, seems to merit attention. It is a mixture of prussiate of potash, sugar, and chlorate of potash; one part of the two former to two parts of the latter. It is by M. Augendre, assayer of the mint.

Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself.—
GÖTTE.

A FLIGHT OF AUTHORESSES.

THERE! I knew it. I foresaw how it would be. Those women! Not content with invading our manly domain of literature and lowering the price of articles, they have now assaulted us in our last stronghold—the London season. Town is full of authoresses. There has been a migration. From all the circumambient towns of England they have flown to the great centre. What is the consequence? The consequence is, that lions are “a drug;” everybody runs after *Les Lionnes*. Groups are formed round the charming CURRER BELL, favouring her with endless remarks upon *Jane Eyre*, all the ugly men (and how ugly some men are, poor devils!) giving themselves “Rochester” airs. Groups cluster round FRAULEIN FANNY LEWALD, who is not only an authoress, but a German authoress, so that the noodles can practise their “German without a master” while sitting for their portraits—paint them she will, never doubt it! Groups cluster round GERALDINE JEWsbury, who plays with paradoxes, paints characters in a phrase, and spoils all my good stories by absorbing the listeners. Yah! Groups also cluster round Mrs. CROWE (I owe her a grudge, because, if her story had not been so good, the *Leader* would have printed mine, and “Oh, the difference to me!”), discussing, as a wag said, “*The Nightshirt of Nature*,” instead of hearing my views on the prehistoric period.

But this is nothing. These women, and some few others, have claims. I don't object to their coming; but they bring others. There's Mrs. BUGBY JONES, there's Miss BUNION, there are twenty or thirty female horrors with inky thumbs and impossible toilettes, crowding our dinner tables and heating our rooms. Only last week I was deprived of an invitation to a house where the cuisine is on a scale of colossal grandeur, because Mrs. BUGBY JONES was asked, and she cannot meet “that Vivian” who wrote the quiz upon her *Triune Developments of the Spirit*. Yesterday I could not join a picnic, because Miss BUNION was to be present. How fond I am of Miss BUNION: how I should like to be the shoe to squeeze her!

(Parenthetically, that joke is not original, but derived from Anacreon, who wishes to be a sandal, that his mistress might trample on him.

καὶ σάνδαλον γενόμεν' ἴμεν ποδὶν πάτερ με. *)

If you wish to know the real secret of my affection for Miss BUNION I will tell you: she writes poetry herself, and because it doesn't sell, declares the age is prosaic. One day, hearing her give utterance to this opinion, I pointed to certain lines written in Harriet's album, without a signature, and asked her what she said to an age which could produce such verses as those? She read them, and dogmatically pronounced them “trash.” The lines were written by me, and here they are, for the reader to judge:—

TO ———

“Tear me, tear me from this sadness!

Kiss me, kiss me till I faint!
Want of love and want of kisses
Is my languishing complaint.

“Passes Youth, and Manhood lingers;
Purposeless my life doth seem.
Droop thy loving eyes upon me;
Love is life—and life a dream!

“Eyes caress, and words will fondle;
Loving thoughts will calm my brain.
Press me, press me to thy bosom!
Kiss me into dreams again!”

I dare say they are trash; but I am sure no man ever asked her to droop her loving eyes upon him, or to press him to her—wadding! Not he.

But this is digressive. My protest is loud against the flight of authoresses. If women will write (I don't see why they should—haven't they us?) let them at least keep to their own towns and villages. Let them be imperial in Bungay; give the law in Southampton; startle York, and scandalize Lincoln, if they please; but don't let them alight in flocks upon this hot and wearied city to the injury of us—the weaker sex—occupying our seats at the festive board, eating our ices, drinking champagne that would have cooled us, spoiling the effect of our stories, taking the polish off our boots, the lustre from our whiskers, the glory from our names. Who will talk to VIVIAN—that agreeable *causeur*—when he or she can say a word to CURRER BELL? Who will invite VIVIAN when his place in the Opera-box can be filled by FANNY LEWALD or ZOE JEWsbury? That's where the grievance lies. These women first take the bread out of my mouth and then the opera box! They spoil my market, and they spoil my “effects.” Is this fair? Is it ladylike? Is it endurable? I could even bring an action for damages against them. On the strength of my reputation I bought a new instrument for curling my whiskers (GERALDINE JEWsbury raves about them!) it has a

* Anac. od. 20. καὶ σάνδαλον—Spalletti ex cod. notavit τὸν σάνδαλον. Pauwius καὶ; Prof. Schweinkopf differs from all editors, and proposes to read τὴν βόττην (the boot—hence the French *bottine*) for τὸν σάνδαλον, truly remarking that a sandal is only tied round the ankle, and cannot, therefore, be trampled on. The Germans are, certainly, profounder scholars than we!

Greek name and cost me fifteen shillings; I also bought a velvet dress-coat lined with white satin,—very stylish, I pledge you my word—and made every arrangement for getting myself up very expensively indeed. Well; is this sacred right of vested interest—the right of capital observe! to be outraged with impunity? For if I am not invited, what becomes of my sunk capital? But I grieve to say vested interests have little respect in this levelling age. Capital has lost its religion. Those vile Socialists have done it all.

But I won't be angry: why should I?

“I will take some savage woman, she shall rear my dusky race!”

I will quit the haunts of fashionable frivolity, &c., and the arms of my divine savage, I will dream away the listless hours, and murmur to her kisses the resounding lines of that *Epopæ*, which I carry within me, and will some day publish, if the women have not utterly ruined the market. And if they have, who cares? I will burn my pen, return to my savage, and bamboo the youngsters!

VIVIAN.

TWO MAGNETIC SEANCES.

THE theories of animal magnetism are to me not yet proven; but I hold my mind in a perfect state of abeyance with respect to them. That very extraordinary facts are exhibited by mesmerists is undoubted; but few philosophical minds will accept the facts as perfectly conclusive, if only for this reason, that Dr. Braid, of Manchester, produces the same effects, by making the patient mesmerize himself. Hence, if by looking at a key or a chimney pot, a person is thrown into the state of coma—and I have seen that at Dr. Braid's—it is quite clear that the state does not depend upon any fluid communicated by the passes of a mesmerist.

But it is not my province to argue the matter here. I wish to record two experiences of my own, and will confine myself to narrative. I had never doubted the general phenomena of mesmerism; but I always doubted the higher phenomena of clairvoyance, and of the operation of the will. The ordinary facts of mesmerism are credible upon the testimony of trustworthy people, for they are only in addition to our previous knowledge—they are new facts, but that is all; with clairvoyance the case is different: there the facts are not in addition, but in contradiction to all we know of vision and of human powers; the trustworthiness of a witness, therefore, would not consist in “respectability” and general veracity, but in those combined with a keen sagacity and analytic power. The intellectual peculiarities here require scrutiny before the testimony is worth listening to. Believing in mesmeric facts without being satisfied as to the theories, I altogether disbelieved in clairvoyance. I had seen no mesmeric phenomena, but accepted them on the faith of others. Clairvoyance I was ready to accept if it were successful in my own case, and with my own conditions; no second hand testimony had the slightest credit with me.

In this frame of mind I was invited by Dr. M. in Paris to attend a private séance, wherein I was “to be converted.” A celebrated clairvoyante was brought by her doctor, who luckily was a perfect stranger to me. I think it right to mention that the séance was strictly private in the physician's house, *Rue Basse du Rempart*, there being only the mesmerizer, his patient, Dr. M., a friend, and myself. My friend went into the room, and after about twenty minutes returned to Dr. M. amazed at the revelations which had been made. “She told me all about myself; described my house perfectly; and described my wife.” I had no greater desire than to be convinced, and went into the room full of expectation. On the sofa was seated a sickly looking girl with her eyes closed, chattering away with the utmost volubility. I was told to take her hand, and to ask her if she would travel with me. She consented. I asked her to go to England, and to accompany me to my house. She did so, and began describing it in that vague and general manner which would apply to nine hundred houses out of a thousand, but not to mine; whenever I forced her to descend to details she was invariably wrong, wrong beyond possibility of mistake, and not only so, but falling into every trap that I chose for her. It is to be observed that, although I went there anxious to be convinced, I carried with me not only a natural fund of scepticism but also a distinct theory as to how the clairvoyante proceeded, and how she succeeded in convincing others that she did see what she described: that theory was excessively simple, but every observer of human nature will at once recognize it as probable. It was that the knowledge you have of the thing described enables you to fill up the vague outline given by the clairvoyante. She gives you a general statement; you make it particular. She describes a room, your memory furnishes the room. You are, moreover, so eager and so delighted to find the marvel, that you unconsciously play into her hands.

I rigidly abstained from doing this. I wanted to be convinced, not cheated. If she really described the things as they were, I would believe. Not a word, therefore, did I utter which could in any way tend to deceive her; I suffered her to proceed in the belief that she was describing everything with minute accuracy, never helping her out of any difficulty, never replying to her guesses, never contradicting her when wrong—or rather never contradicting after the two first attempts. She said my house was on the right hand side, and I said “No.” “No, not the right, the left,” she said; and on entering the first room she said it was round. “No,” said I. “Not round,” she replied, “but square.” After this I thought proper not to contradict her!

I have spoken of certain traps laid for her. Let a word suffice to explain them. Although I refused to do what was expected of me, and unconsciously assist her to the very knowledge she pretended to give me, I did—

in obedience to my own theory—pretend to be a dupe, and pretend to assist her by exclamations of "Wonderful!" "I never heard the like!" "It is incredible!" and while so doing contrived to put such questions as would, I thought, if my theory were correct, infallibly make her say not only what was absolutely false, but *precisely the thing I chose she should say*. I will give an example. On the first landing there is a glass door, which leads to a servant's bedroom. This was our conversation. "Is there anything peculiar about this landing?" "Yes (a pause). What a delicious smell!" "Of what?" "Like flowers." Here I saw she was on the verge of a grand mistake, and I determined to see if by a little care on my part she could not be induced to describe a conservatory; I therefore exclaimed, "Wonderful!" then added "And what do you see besides flowers?" "Green stands, and, oh! a quantity of glass." "Is it a conservatory?" "Yes." As we mounted to the drawing-room floor I became very curious to see how she would escape the trap which circumstances had laid for her. My drawing-room is *not* on the first floor, as is usual, but the room which generally serves for a drawing-room is with us a best bedroom. She described it furnished as a drawing-room, with ottomans, knick-knacks, card-tables, &c., without one hint as to the great peculiarity—a bed! I then asked her if she saw my portrait, "Yes." "Is it a large or small picture?" "Large." "Oil painting or chalk drawing?" "Oil; but it is younger than you are." (It really is a small pencil sketch; a meerschau pipe is in one hand; books are lying around.) "Do you observe anything peculiar about the face?" "Yes, there is hair about the mouth—military looking!" Nothing can be less martial; it has the appearance of a German student without his beard and moustaches; but the word military suggested to me that I would entrap her, so I said, "And is there anything in the general dress to bear out that appearance?" "Yes, there is a sort of...oh! it's regimentals!" "Well, I am astounded!" and astounded I was at the impudence and humbug of the exhibition. At this moment Dr. M. came in and said to her, "*Eh bien! chère Elise*, are you successful?" "It is incredible," said I. "Yes," said the girl, "I travel very well with this gentleman; I see very clearly with him." As a final question I asked about my family, which consists of four boys and a human Rose in the shape of their mother. Elise saw them distinctly: they were two girls and a tall, pale, dark, thin woman!

The upshot of that séance was simply my thorough conviction that the girl was a cheat; but I was not illiberal enough to believe that all the clairvoyants were cheats, and therefore was—as I am still—eager to see any genuine case. My first experience had merely shown me what every one knows, viz., the amount of delusion which exists on the subject, and the vulgar artifices by which it is kept up. This girl, instead of playing upon me, allowed me to play upon her, and make her say just what I pleased, and at other times when I did not ensnare her by any questions or exclamations she was hopelessly, ludicrously wrong, except in such particulars as apply to all houses and all people.

My next experience was in London. Count P., an Italian gentleman with great mesmeric power, happened to say at an evening party, that a certain lady of high literary reputation, was a good subject for mesmerism, and that he was sure she would be clairvoyante. After some difficulty it was arranged that a very small party should meet at the house of the lady's medical adviser, and that the Count should make the experiment. There were only six present. The Count was not only a perfect stranger to the patient, but to the rest of us. From our knowledge of the lady the exhibition was extremely interesting: the idea of deceit could find no acceptance in this case, and the experiments bade fair to be decisive.

Her clairvoyance was a signal failure. She did, indeed, answer questions, but they were such as a person talking in sleep might answer. Some written paper was placed in her hands. She was told to read it. She could not. The Count insisted, and his insistence made her painfully eager, but she was forced to reply that not a letter could she see. He then asked her, "Who came into the room just now?" She answered, "Mr. Lewes." "Ah!" said some one, "she knew Mr. Lewes was the only person expected." "I beg your pardon," observed another, "there is Jim Brown still to come." I record this for an especial reason, as will be seen. The séance proceeded; various experiments of her clairvoyance were tried, but all failed. At last a loud knock at the street door made the Count say, "Now, miss, tell me who is at the door?"—"I don't know." "But I insist upon your telling me."—"I can't." "Don't you see him?"—"No." "Look. I command you to see him."—"Indeed I can see no one. Stop, yes, it's Jim Brown!" This, to the Count, was a triumphant example. It staggered me at first. But her absolute inability to see any one whatever, though writhing under the commands of the Count, recurred again and again to me; and, at last, I remembered the fragment of conversation given above, in which it was said aloud that Jim Brown (the name, of course, is disguised) was still expected. This explanation then occurred to me: She hears distinctly everything that is said, and she heard, therefore the words "Jim Brown has still to come." When first she was ordered to tell who knocked at the door, she could see no one; but, in the discomfort of his insistence, the words Jim Brown suddenly came back upon her, and she exclaimed that she saw him. To make this explanation more convincing, I observe, first, that the lady in question would never, under any circumstances of familiarity, have spoken of Mr. Brown as "Jim Brown," who to her was a stranger; secondly, that the phrase, Jim Brown, was that which caught her ear, and hence her use of it, though so contrary to all her habits.

With the cheat, therefore, and with the genuine woman I found my expe-

rience of clairvoyance equally opposed to its claims. In the one case, I saw how dupes were made by charlatans; in the other, how, with the help of a little credulity and some coincidences, honest and "respectable" examples might be cited, which, when nearly scrutinized, would turn out to be deceptions.

If any mesmerist chooses to accept my conditions—if he will suffer me to eliminate all those circumstances which I may deem necessary before a conclusive experiment can be made—I am open to conviction, and will gladly record the success as plainly as I have recorded the failures. It is not the marvellous nature of the phenomena which makes me slow of belief; there are marvels enough in accredited science to rival all that mesmerists adduce; but the great stumbling-block has been, and is, the want of any conclusive experiments made with perfect openness and desire to get at the truth.

G. H. L.

DESPAIR.

IN the darkest hour of the blackest midnight there is a glimmer of light travelling round from the absent sun, or sent perhaps from some star so veiled or so remote that it cannot be described. So in the deepest hour of despair there is the reflex of memory or hope, if your eyes are but accustomed enough to the dark.

At first, coming from the sunlight of happiness to the black blank of despair, the heart is struck with horror, and a cowardly weakness vainly strives to recoil, or to crave help even where it cannot be given. To face an evil that is perfect in its misery demands more courage than men can possess at once; you sink back, hoping, even when the black cloud is all but upon you, that something may happen before it actually wraps you in its pall. You strain your eyes in the desire to find some opening of escape through the cloud itself; and, when its unbroken blackness tells you that verily your hour has come, you are prostrate with cold hopelessness.

You grasp at some solace to sustain you in the hour of danger, and affection whispers to you that others suffer as much. Does that really console you? Or does it not rather add a pang where the misery already seemed full?

Yet, truly, even in that profoundest gloom, there is solace, possibly more than one. Unless despair deprives the mind of its memory, there is the warm light shining from the past—for the past cannot be taken from you; you possess it quite. Though the face of Heaven may be dark to you now, the sunshine of yesterday is in your heart.

Then if you are suffering, others enjoy; and that which brings pain to you may bring joy to those who are better capable of life. And this is the true consolation in despair, that if you are oppressed with agony, it is under the decree of some great law which is working in the world for good. The power which crushes you is the same that sustains happiness elsewhere. If you are pining in sickness it is so because the laws of organic life are vindicating their unchangeableness. Estrangement is the sickness of love: it may be mortal; but it belongs to the same laws of love which give life its joys. Even if you do not understand the calamity which overwhelms you, rest assured that the laws of the universe do not fail because you cannot see them at the moment; and if your hour has come, bow to your fate in trust that the sun is shining elsewhere. It is want of love in your own heart that makes the true desolation; do but love enough, and as in the deepest dark you see the light that abides in your own eyes, so in the blackest despair you shall see the light in your own heart. Even if death itself cannot win back the averted look of affection, and a glimpse of the parting sun is denied to your closing eyes, your mouldering flesh will be taken back by Earth, and perchance it may feed the flowers that shall receive the lost smile of love.

INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM.

It might be a good plan, were it practicable, to get nations reciprocally to review each other. A very admirable collection of reports, we imagine, might be published under the title of "The Nations of the World mutually Criticised." Or, to take a more restricted case: fancy a Blue Book, one half of which should consist of "England and the English, by an American," and the other half, of "America and her Institutions, by an Englishman." Would not the first, by the very necessity of the case, contain a great many severe truths calculated rather to benefit Mr. Bull than to please him; and would not the second probably offer, in return, some wholesome, if harsh, advice to Brother Jonathan? In fact, were such a plan of international criticism fully carried out, should we not see the various nations of the world gradually attaining smoothness by their mutual friction, and the world itself slowly polished up to the ideal of its collective wishes? Nor from this great work of mutual improvement and castigation would we exclude any portion of our race, however humble. Gladly in the general collection of reports should we see a few pages occupied with "France and its People, from the Esquimaux Point of View," or, "The State and Prospects of Eastern Europe as they appear to a Reflecting Carib."

SCRAPS OF THOUGHT.

XXXIV. Tiresias was struck with blindness as he looked on Minerva bathing. Here Minerva is the symbol of Supreme and Divine Wisdom, while Tiresias represents the audacious mortal who, morbidly inquisitive, rashly lifts the veil of mysteries which separates the infinite consciousness of God from the limited thought of man. The dazzled eye loses from the moment of that guilty gaze the capacity to see the natural relations of things, which is equivalent to being blind.

XXXV. The marriage of Hercules after his glorious career on earth is ended, and his entrance into heaven among the gods with Hebe, the goddess of youth, means the immortal fame which is the reward of heroic deeds.

XXXVI. Nature in her rudest shapes is holier than men's divinest ideas of God.

XXXVII. The link between the finite and the infinite is not divine necessity but human caprice.

Matters of Fact.

STATISTICS OF SAVINGS BANKS.—It appears by a Parliamentary paper, printed at the instance of Mr. Hume, that the total number of depositors in savings banks during the year 1847 was 1,065,554, and that the amount of deposits, including interest, was £30,207,180. In 1848 the depositors fell off to 1,065,881, and the deposits to £28,114,136; but in 1849 the number and amount both showed an increase, the numbers being 1,087,354, and the amount of deposits £28,637,100. Of the latter sum, £26,671,903 was lodged by private individuals, £612,376 by charitable institutions, and £1,252,731 by friendly societies. The total number of annuities granted through the medium of savings banks in Great Britain and Ireland, from the 26th of March, 1834, to the 5th of January, 1850, inclusive, was 5575. The amount of immediate annuities granted was £108,837, 5s. 6d., for which the annuitants paid £1,149,056. Of deferred annuities there were 108 granted, for which £17,332 were paid; and of deferred annuities by annual payments, 1273, granting £25,523,017, and on account of which £59,934 have been paid.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—The enormous rate of increase in the traffic of this line, to which we have so often adverted, still continues to exhibit itself in the weekly returns. The receipts for the last week are no less than £5119 in excess of those of the corresponding period of 1849—viz., £3410 in the passenger, and £1809 in the goods traffic. The increase for the twenty-three weeks of the present year is £63,574 over the receipts for the corresponding three weeks of 1849; that is, at the rate of £2760 per week, or £143,500 per annum, or nearly equal to 1½ per cent. increase in the dividend.—*Morning Herald.*

THE DEBTS OF EUROPEAN STATES.—The consolidated debt of the different European states amounts to the sum of 40,560,599,949l., viz.:

	Francs.
Great Britain in 1849	19,737,578,544
France .. 1849	6,235,980,120
Netherlands 1848	2,620,421,813
Austria .. 1848	3,213,100,000
Prussia .. 1849	627,550,000
Russia .. 1849	1,335,950,000
Belgium .. 1848	606,969,472
Sardinia .. 1849	380,000,000
Spain .. 1844	4,496,800,000
Portugal .. 1845	458,250,000
German States, exclusive of Austria and Prussia	848,000,000

The interest of this debt amounts to nearly 2,000,000,000 of francs annually, equal to the earnings of 4,000,000 of men, each gaining 500 francs per annum.—*Journal du Commerce d'Anvers.*

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Returns.)
In the week ending last Saturday the deaths registered in the metropolitan districts were 844; in the previous week they were only 736. In the three corresponding weeks of 1847-9 the deaths ranged from 786 to 971; and taking the corresponding weeks of 10 years, the average is 861, or, raised in the ratio of population, 939. The present return, therefore, shows a decrease on the average equal to 95. With the increasing warmth of the weather the mortality from diseases of the respiratory organs steadily declines.

The mean reading of the barometer in the week was 29.875; the daily mean was above 30in. on the first three days of the week. The mean temperature was 59 deg. 3 min.; it was above the average of the same week in seven years on the first four days, and below it during the rest; the highest in the sun was about 104 degrees on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The wind was in the east on the first three days; it veered to the south-west on the afternoon of Wednesday, and continued generally in that direction through the rest of the week.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

SATURDAY MORNING, Half-past Eleven.
With the exception of a slight decline at the opening of business on Monday, which was soon recovered, the English Funds have been remarkably buoyant this week. The depression alluded to was ascribed to the news from France, which reported Rentes as having fallen; but this intelligence was more than balanced by the telegraphic announcement, at a later hour, of the total failure of the Cuban expedition, which caused Consols to go up from 96½ to 97, at which price they remained. On Tuesday the upward tendency was maintained, and as the transactions in connection with the settlement, which was to take place next day, did not show any particular pressure of stock upon the market, the closing price was 97½. On Wednesday they opened with a tendency upward, and several transactions took place at 97½, but the high price having brought sellers into the market, prices receded to 96½, from which point they rallied, Consols, at the close of business, having been 97 to 97½. On Thursday they left off at 97½.

The range of prices during the week has been—Consols, 96½ to 97½; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 97½ to 98½; Bank Stock, 208 to 209; Exchequer Bills, 68s. to 71s. premium.

In Foreign Securities very little business has taken place during the week, but prices have been, on the average, well supported. The current quotations are,

Brazilian, Small, at 88; Danish Five per Cents., 99; Granada, 18 and 18½; Mexican, for money, 31½ and 3½; for the account, 31½; the Small, 31½; Portuguese Four per Cents., 34½; Russian, 109; the Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 96½; the Scrip, 31 premium; Spanish Five per Cents., 17½ and 1½; the Three per Cents., for money, 38½ and 1½; for the account 38½; Venezuela Deferred, 12; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 57½, 4½, and the Four per Cent. Certificates, 86½, 4½, and 4½.

The prevailing accounts from the manufacturing districts have been of a much more cheerful character this week. The Manchester trade has begun to improve, although the short supply of the raw material still operates as a considerable drawback upon this great branch of our national industry. In Yorkshire, the woollen manufacture continues in a very prosperous state.

AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR.

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending the 11th day of June, 1850, is 25s. per cwt.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32 for the week ending on Saturday, the 8th of June, 1850.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	30,086,420	Government Debt, 11,015,100	
		Other Securities, 2,984,900	
		Gold Coin and Bullion	15,876,543
		Silver Bullion	209,877
	£30,086,420		£30,086,420

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' Capital, 14,553,000		Government Securities (including Dead-weight Annuity)	14,316,185
Reserve, 3,056,796		Other Securities	10,267,023
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	8,034,320	Gold and Silver Coin	779,485
Other Deposits	9,450,246		
Seven-day and other Bills	1,189,956		
	£36,284,218		£36,284,218

Dated June 13, 1850. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(Closing Prices.)

	Satur.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	95½	95½	96½	96½	96½	96½
3 per Ct. Red.	96½	96½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 p. C. Con. Ans.	96½	96½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 p. C. An. 1726.	96½	96½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 p. C. Con. Ac.	97½	97½	98½	98½	98½	98½
3 p. Cent. An.	97½	97½	98½	98½	98½	98½
New 5 per Ct.	8 3-16	8 3-16	8 3-16	8 3-16	8 3-16	8 3-16
Long Ans. 1860.	88	88	88	88	88	88
Ind. St. 101 p. Ct.	71 p	69 p	71 p	71 p	68 p	71 p
Ditto Bonds	71 p	71 p	71 p	71 p	68 p	71 p
Ex. Bills, 1000f.	71 p	71 p	71 p	71 p	68 p	71 p
Ditto, 500f.	71 p	71 p	71 p	71 p	68 p	71 p
Ditto, Small	71 p	71 p	71 p	71 p	68 p	71 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Friday Evening.)

Austrian 5 per Cents. 95½	Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc. 31½
Belgian Bds. 44 p. Ct. 89½	Neapolitan 5 per Cents. —
Brazilian 5 per Cents. 88½	Peruvian 4½ per Cents. 77½
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts. —	Portuguese 5 per Cent. —
Chilian 6 per Cents. —	— 4 per Cts. —
Equador Bonds	— Annuities
Danish 3 per Cents.	Russian, 1822, 5 p. Cts. 109
Dutch 2½ per Cents.	Span. Actives, 9 p. Cts. 17½
— 4 per Cents.	— Passive
French 5 p. C. An. at Paris 93.70	— Deferred
— 3 p. Cts., June 13, 56.30	

SHARES.

Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Friday Evening

RAILWAYS.	BANKS.
Caledonian 94	Australasian 24
Edinburgh and Glasgow .. 27½	British North American .. 42½
Eastern Counties 7½	Colonial 7
Great Northern 10½	Commercial of London .. 27½
Great North of England .. 233	London and Westminster .. 27½
Great S. & W. (Ireland) .. 32	London Joint Stock .. 17½
Great Western 59	National of Ireland
Hull and Selby 97	National Provincial
Lancashire and Yorkshire 41	Provincial of Ireland .. 43
Lancaster and Carlisle .. 54	Union of Australia .. 32½
London, Brighton, & S. Coast 83½	Union of London .. 12½
London and Blackwall .. 44	
London and N.-Western. 109	
Midland 57½	Bolton —
North British 78	Brazilian Imperial .. 15½
South-Eastern and Dover .. 15½	Ditto, St. John del Rey .. —
South-Western 64	Cobre Copper —
York, Newcastle, & Berwick 158	
York and North Midland 17½	
East and West India .. 142	
London 121	
St. Katharine 82	

GRAIN. Mark-lane, June 14.	
Wheat, R. New 38s. to 40s.	26s. to 28s.
Fine 40 — 42	White 24 — 25
Old 40 — 42	Boilers 25 — 28
White 41 — 43	Beans, Ticks .. 24 — 25
Fine 42 — 44	Old 25 — 28
Superior New 41 — 44	Indian Corn .. 27 — 30
Rye 23 — 24	Oats, Feed .. 15 — 16
Barley 18 — 19	Fine 16 — 17
Malt 22 — 23	Poland 19 — 20
Malt, Ord. 45 — 47	Fine 19 — 20
Fine 47 — 52	Potato 17 — 18
Peas, Hog 21 — 25	Fine 18 — 19

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

WEEK ENDING JUNE 8.

Imperial General Weekly Average.

Wheat 39s. 8d.	Rye 23s. 7d.
Barley 22 4	Beans 27 0
Oats 16 7	Peas 26 8

Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.

Wheat 39s. 2d.	Rye 21s. 5d.
Barley 22 5	Beans 25 9
Oats 15 8	Peas 25 6

FLOUR.

Town-made per sack	37s. to 40s.
Seconds	34 — 37
Essex and Suffolk, on board ship	30 — 33
Norfolk and Stockton	28 — 30
American	19 — 23
Canadian	20 — 23
Wheaten Bread, 6½d. the 4lb. loaf. Households, 5½d.	

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.* SMITHFIELD*.

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Beef	2 6 to 3 4	2 6 to 3 8		
Mutton	3 8 to 4 2	3 8 to 4 2		
Veal	2 8 to 3 2	2 8 to 3 2		
Pork	3 4 to 4 0	3 4 to 4 0		
Lamb	4 0 to 5 0	4 0 to 5 2		

* To sink the offal, per 8lb.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Friday.	Monday.
Beasts	1,090	3291
Sheep	15,550	28,144
Calves	664	248
Pigs	309	390

PROVISIONS.

Butter—Best Fresh, 10s. to 11s. per doz.	
Carlow, £5 5s. to £3 10s. per cwt.	
Bacon, Irish per cwt.	52s. to 53s.
Cheese, Cheshire	46 — 68
Derby, Plain	46 — 54
Hams, York	60 — 70
Eggs, French, per 120, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.	

HAY AND STRAW. (Per load of 36 Trusses.)

	CUMBERLAND.	SMITHFIELD.	WHITECHAPEL.
Hay, Good	50s. to 70s.	48s. to 70s.	45s. to 70s.
Inferior	0 — 0	0 — 0	0 — 0
New	0 — 0	0 — 0	0 — 0
Clover	60 — 85	60 — 88	60 — 90
Wheat Straw	22 — 29	21 — 28	21 — 28

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, June 11.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—S. Fifth, Leeds, linen-draper; first div. of 5s., any Tuesday; Mr. Hope, Leeds—1st. Walley and P. W. Hardwick, Oxford-street, drapers; first div. of 20s. (on the separate estates), on Thursday, June 13, and three subsequent Thursdays; Mr. Stanfield, Basinghall-street—T. and J. L. Kealey, Church-street, Blackfriars-road, and Walsall, Staffordshire, tanners; first div. of 1s., on Thursday, June 13, and three subsequent Thursdays; Mr. Stanfield, Basinghall-street—C. Sneezum, Woodbridge, Suffolk, grocer; first div. of 3s. 7d., on Thursday, June 13, and three subsequent Thursdays; Mr. Stanfield, Basinghall-street—W. Woods and S. Thomas, Cheapside, wholesale hardwaremen; first div. of 5s., on Thursday, June 13, and three subsequent Thursdays; Mr. Stanfield, Basinghall-street—J. Bailey and A. Inskip, Long-lane, Berners-street, leather manufacturers; second div. of 1d. and 15-16ths of a penny, on Thursday, June 13, and three following Thursdays; Mr. Stanfield, Basinghall-street—J. Webster, Southgate, Middlesex, dealer in mining shares; first div. of 8½d. on Monday, June 17 and 24; Mr. Cannan, Birch-lane—W. B. Blaber, Little Britain, plumber; first div. of 1s. 11½d., on Monday, June 17 and 24; Mr. Cannan, Birch-lane—H. Biers, Carlton-villas, Edgware-road; first div. of 7d., on Monday, June 17 and 24; Mr. Cannan, Birch-lane—C. Williams, Carlton-street, Somerset, clerk in the Customs; first div. of 3s. 3d., any Wednesday; Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street.

BANKRUPTS.—G. HAINES, Northampton, grocer, to surrender June 19, July 17; solicitors, Mr. Hensman, Basing-lane; and Mr. Dennis, Southampton; official assignee, Mr. Stanfield—R. CAMPLING, Norwich, haberdasher, June 28, August 6; solicitors, Mr. Jay, Bucklersbury; and Messrs. Jay and Pilgrim, Norwich; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Aldchurch-lane, Lombard-street—G. KILNER, Kirkheaton, Yorkshire, coal-merchant, June 27, July 26; solicitors, Messrs. Fenton and Jones, Huddersfield; and Mr. Shaw, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Freeman, Leeds—M. JARVIS, Leeds, wool merchant, June 27, July 26; solicitors, Messrs. Richardson, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Young, Leeds—T. SMITH, Liverpool, cheesemonger, June 24, July 15; solicitors, Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Cannan, Liverpool—J. WARRING, Liverpool, draper, June 24, July 15; solicitors, Messrs. Dickinson and Overbury, Old Jewry; and Mr. Fletcher, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Morgan, Liverpool—T. BAXENDALE, Bolton-le-Moors, Lancashire, grocer, June 21, July 11; solicitors, Messrs. Richardson and Marsland, Bolton-le-Moors; official assignee, Mr. Hobson, Manchester—J. HARRIS, Macclesfield, silk dyer, June 26, July 22; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shiplan, Manchester; and Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Fraser, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.—July 4, E. Dixon, Gravesend, oilman—July 2, W. Brown, Suffolk-lane, Cannon-street, and Pimlico, stone merchant—July 2, W. Harper, Cowper's-court, Cornhill, merchant—July 4, J. Harrington, Manchester, commission agent, and Causton, Nottinghamshire, farmer.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting—July 3, J. Hollingsworth, Kingston-upon-Hull, shipowner—July 12, T. Ross, jun., Barton Joyce, Nottinghamshire, braid manufacturer—July 4, D. H. Berresford, Stockport, linen-draper.

Friday, June 14.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—H. Bourne, Wolsingham, Durham, scrivener; first div. of 1s. 6d. on new profits, and second div. of 3s. 1d. on all profits, any Saturday; Mr. Baker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—G. Sharrow and J. Bradshaw, Stone, Staffordshire, shoe manufacturers; second and final div. of 1s. 5½d., any Thursday; Mr. Whitmore, Birmingham—W. Fotherby and E. Ingley, Liverpool, merchants, further div. of 5-32d., June 26, or any subsequent Wednesday; Mr. Morgan, Liverpool—J. Hardcastle, Manchester, tavern keeper; first div. of 4s. 7½d., June 25, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Fraser, Manchester—W. C. Lee, Hastings, grocer; second div. of 1s. 9d., June 19, and three subsequent Wednesdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—T. Pasco, Chichester, upholsterer; second div. of 8d., June 19, and three subsequent Wednesdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—S. Martin, Poole and Parkstone, Dorsetshire, salt merchant; first div. of 1s. 9d., June 19, and three subsequent Wednesdays; Mr. Graham, Coleman-street—G.

Orbell, Romford, horse dealer; second and final div. of 24d., June 15, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—J. Price, Birmingham, cabinet maker; first div. of 2s. 2d., any Thursday; Mr. Valpy, Birmingham—J. Palmer, sen., Stapleford, Nottinghamshire, and T. T. Barker, Sandiacre, Derbyshire, cotton doublers; first div. of 3s. 8d., any Thursday; Mr. Valpy, Birmingham—R. Fox, Derby, stock dealer; first div. of 2s. 6d., June 22, or any subsequent alternate Saturday until December 21; Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham—R. Jelley, Leicester, cabinet maker; first div. of 3s. 6d., June 22, or any subsequent alternate Saturday until December 21; Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham.

BANKRUPTS.—W. WALKER, George-yard, Crown-street, Soho, carriage spring-maker, to surrender June 21, July 26, solicitors, Messrs. Ford and Lloyd, Bloomsbury-square; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street—J. KATE, Bridge-row Wharf, Piccadilly, coal-merchant, June 21, July 26; solicitors, Messrs. Langham, Bartlett's-buildings, Holborn; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore—T. SMITH, Liverpool, cheesemonger, June 24, July 15; solicitors, Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Casanova, Liverpool—W. JACKSON, Lichfield, wine-merchant, June 29, July 29; solicitors, Messrs. Dyott and Son, Lichfield; and Mr. Beece, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Valpy, Birmingham—F. STOSSIGER, Birmingham, jeweller, June 26, July 21; solicitor, Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Christie, Birmingham—J. M'GIBBON and A. GALBREATH, Kingston-upon-Hull, traders, June 26, July 17; solicitors, Messrs. Wells and Smith, Hull; official assignee, Mr. Christie, Hull.

DIVIDENDS.—July 5, J. Killick, Dorking, carpenter—July 5, W. B. Edridge, Long-acre, coachmaker—July 8, H. C. Brown, Winchester, builder—July 8, C. Aders, Crutchedfriars, merchant—July 4, R. Robson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, manufacturer of plaster of Paris—July 5, B. R. Broadbent, Rochdale, flannel manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting—July 9, J. Arnett, St. Dunstan's-hill, Custom-house agent—July 11, C. H. Swann, Sanford; J. Swann, Woolvercote; and W. Swann, Emsham, Oxfordshire, papermakers—July 12, J. Honiball, Ingram-court, Fenchurch-street, and Wickham, Durham, anchor manufacturer—July 11, W. Chittenden, Tarrington-place, and Church-street, Paddington, draper—July 16, J. Brown, Bristol, builder—July 9, J. Fisher, Yatton, Somersetshire, money scrivener—July 9, H. Paris, Liverpool, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. Grant, Bower, Calthness-shire, farmer, June 19, 1910—W. Bell, Wishawton, Lanarkshire, grocer, June 19, 1910—D. Miller, Airdrie, grocer, June 21, 1910—J. Brash, North Berwick, mason, June 21, 1910.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 5th inst., at Derby, the wife of Mr. A. J. Henley, of a daughter.
On the 6th inst., at Calbourne Rectory, Isle of Wight, the wife of the Reverend R. Sumner, of a daughter.
On the 8th inst., at Tortworth, the Honourable Mrs. Percy Moreton, of a son.
On the 8th inst., at Chettle-lodge, Cranborne, Dorset, the wife of Captain Douglas Curry, R.N., of a son.
On the 4th inst., the lady of the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor, of a daughter.
On the 8th inst., at Fitzroy-park, Highgate, the wife of William Gladstone, Esq., of a son.
On the 8th inst., at Shipley Parsonage, Sussex, the wife of the Reverend F. Bourdillon, of a daughter.
On the 10th inst., at Waterville, near Escher, the Honourable Mrs. O. W. Lambert, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 4th inst., at Elton, county of Durham, the Reverend H. Maister, of New Inn-hall, Oxford, M.A., eldest son of Colonel Maister, of Winsted, in Holderness, to Grace, eldest daughter of G. W.utton, Esq., of Elton-hall, in the county of Durham.
On the 8th inst., from the residence of Benjamin Bond, Esq., Gloucester-buildings, Old Kent-road, Miss E. P. Ward, daughter of Lieutenant E. Ward, R.N., to L. U. van Senden, Esq., Portland-terrace, New Kent-road.
On the 8th inst., at St. James's, Piccadilly, A. W. Cole, Esq., of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law, to Eliza Hill, only daughter of the late W. Whitfield, Esq., Lieutenant R.N.
On the 8th inst., at St. John's, Clapham-park, W. Webb, Esq., of Clapham-park, to Sarah Caroline, only surviving daughter of L. S. Clanc, Esq., of the General Post-office.
On the 11th inst., at St. Margaret's, Rochester, F. H. Talman, Esq., D.C.L., of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of D. B. Lewis, Esq., of Rochester.
On the 12th inst., at St. Pancras New Church, J. H. Burnley, Esq., of her Britannic Majesty's Embassy at Madrid, to Emily Adelaide, daughter of J. B. Heath, Esq., of Russell-square.

DEATHS.

On the 13th inst., at her residence in Mansfield-street, the Right Honourable Alice Mary, Countess Dowager of Limerick.
On the 6th inst., in Westbourne-street, Hyde Park-gardens, the Honourable Amelia Louisa Noel Hill, youngest sister of the late Right Honourable and Reverend Lord Berwick.
On the 4th inst., in Fenchurch-street, an inhabitant of that street for upwards of sixty years, James Kilson, Esq., aged 86, senior member of the Court of the Savoy Company.
On the 5th inst., at Testwood, aged 75, Anne, widow of the Right Honourable William Sturges Bourne.
On the 5th inst., in the 33rd year of her age, Agnes, the wife of George Forrest of Kendal, and sister of W. Thompson, Esq., M.P. for Westmoreland.
On the 7th inst., in Fitzroy-square, W. Ross, Esq., father of Sir W. C. Ross, B.A., aged 78.
On the 29th ult., at his residence, Rome, R. J. Wyatt, Esq., sculptor.
On the 4th inst., at Moness-house, Perthshire, John W. Lamb Campbell, Esq., of Glenfalloch, aged 63.
On the 5th inst., Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas G. Fitzgerald, of Turrough-park, county of Mayo, Ireland, and formerly of Maper-ton-house, Somerset, and Boldshay-hall, Yorkshire.
On the 7th inst., at Fontainebleau, on his way to Italy, F. M. Reynolds, Esq., late of Wilton-house, St. Heliers, Jersey, author of "Miserrimus," &c., and eldest son of the late F. Reynolds, the celebrated dramatist.
On the 7th inst., in Shandwick-place, Edinburgh, Mary, widow of the late General Sir J. Hay, K.C.H., colonel of the Second Dragoon Guards, and for some time Lieutenant-Governor of Edinburgh Castle.
On the 10th inst., in Grosvenor-square, Sir George Talbot, Bart., of Mickleham, Surrey.
On the 11th inst., at North-bank, Regent's-Park, in her 70th year, Elizabeth, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel James Conway.
On the 25th of December, 1849, at Geelong, Australia, on board the Abbotston, Mr. Charles Jennings, surgeon, aged 24, youngest son of the late Sir Charles Jennings, of Chelmside.
On the 3d inst., at Ardglass, county of Down, Martha, relict of Major-General William Alexander, and daughter of Sir Robert Waller, Bart., of Newport, county of Tipperary, in her 79th year.
On the 13th inst., at Woodbine-villa, St. John's-wood, William de Montmorency, Esq., of Upperwood, county of Kilkenny, in the 54th year of his age, eldest son of the late Sir William de Montmorency.

THOUGHTS ON INDIGESTION, &c.

By JAMES COCKLE, Surgeon.

"Ah! in what perils is vain life engaged!
What slight neglects what trivial faults—
Destroy the hardest frame."

Disease has been designated, as truly as poetically, the "sad heritage of humanity." We are, in fact, both by our organisation and our habits, alike subjected to its blighting influence. Too frequently are we induced, through our social position, to "press the poisoned chalice to our lips," swallowing with the lucious draught the germs of future suffering and distress. There are, perhaps, no organs in the body which suffer so much from frequent disturbance of their functions as those of digestion, and none in which the tone of the stomach is sooner weakened. By the remarkable power of sympathy, morbid phenomena of the most diversified character are propagated throughout the endless chain of nervous communication, occasioning those peculiar symptoms so well understood by the dyspeptic sufferer. To those, therefore, who suffer from indigestion, bile, sick headache, acidity in the stomach and bowels, heartburn, flatulency, spasms, &c., COCKLE'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS will be found invaluable. May be had of all medicine venders, in boxes, at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.; of whom also may be had

COCKLE'S INFLUENZA AND COUGH LOZENGE, a most efficacious, safe, and agreeable preparation for the relief and cure of influenza, colds, coughs, hoarseness, chronic bronchitis, asthma, &c., complaints which are so troublesome and peculiarly harassing at the present season. In boxes, at 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH. Price

1s. 1d. per box. This excellent Family Pill is a Medicine of long-tried efficacy for correcting all disorders of the Stomach and Bowels, the common symptoms of which are Costiveness, Flatulency, Spasms, Loss of Appetite, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Sense of Fullness after meals, Dizziness of the Eyes, Drowsiness, and Pains in the Stomach and Bowels: Indigestion, producing a Torpid State of the Liver, and a consequent inactivity of the Bowels, causing a disorganisation of every function of the frame, will, in this most excellent preparation, by a little perseverance, be effectually removed. Two or three doses will convince the afflicted of its salutary effects. The stomach will speedily regain its strength; a healthy action of the liver, bowels, and kidneys will rapidly take place; and instead of listlessness, heat, pain, and jaundiced appearance, strength, activity, and renewed health will be the quick result of taking this medicine, according to the directions accompanying each box.

As a pleasant, safe, easy Aperient, they unite the recommendation of a mild operation with the most successful effect, and require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use; and for Elderly People they will be found to be the most comfortable medicine hitherto prepared.

Sold by T. PROUT, 229, Strand, London. Price 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per box; and by the venders of medicine generally throughout the kingdom.

Ask for FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London, on the Government Stamp.

HEALTH WHERE 'TIS SOUGHT.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Cure of a Case of

Weakness and Debility, of Four Years' standing. Extract of a Letter from Mr. William Smith, of No. 5, Little Thomas-street, Gibson-street, Lambeth, dated Dec. 12, 1849.

"To Professor HOLLOWAY,

SIR,—I beg to inform you that for nearly five years I hardly knew what it was to have a day's health, suffering from weakness and debility, with constant nervous headaches, giddiness, and sickness of the stomach, together with a great depression of spirits. I used to think that nothing could benefit me, as I had been to many medical men, some of whom, after doing all that was in their power, informed me that they considered that I had some spinal complaint beyond the reach of cure, together with a very disordered state of the stomach and liver, making my case so complicated that nothing could be done for me. One day, being unusually ill and in a dejected state, I saw your Pills advertised, and resolved to give them a trial, more perhaps from curiosity than with a hope of being cured, however I soon found myself better by taking them, and so I went on persevering in their use for six months, when I am happy to say they effected a perfect cure.

WILLIAM SMITH, (signed)

"(frequently called EDWARD)."

Sold at the Establishment of Professor HOLLOWAY, 214, Strand (near Temple Bar), London, and by most all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicine throughout the civilized World, at the following prices—1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s., 22s., and 33s. each Box. There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N.B.—Directions for the guidance of Patients in every Disorder are affixed to each Box.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ROYALTY, AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—A Cer-

tain Remedy for disorders of the Pulmonary Organs—in Difficulty of Breathing—in Redundancy of Phlegm—in Incipient Consumption (of which Cough is the most positive indication) they are of unerring efficacy. In Asthma, and in Winter Cough, they have never been known to fail.

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N.B.—To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES" are engraved on the Government Stamp of each box.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

Cure of Asthma of several years' standing.

Cairncross, near Stroud, Gloucestershire,

March 20, 1850.

"SIR,—Having been troubled with Asthma for several years, I could find no relief from any medicine whatever until I was induced about two years ago to try a box of your valuable Lozenges, and found such relief from them that I am determined for the future never to be without a box of them in the house, and will do all in my power to recommend them to my friends.

"If you consider the above Testimonial of any advantage, you are quite at liberty to make what use of it you please.

I am, Sir, your most obliged servant,

"Thos. Keating, Esq.,

79, St. Paul's Churchyard,

"W. J. Tatlog."

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

The Sixteenth Annual Exhibition of this Society is now open at their Gallery, 33, Pall-mall, nearly opposite St. James's Palace, daily, from Nine till dusk. Admission 1s. Season Tickets may be had of the Keeper at the Gallery. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

VALLEY OF THE NILE.—Additions have

been made to this Panorama.—The Nubian Desert, from the Second Cataract to Dongola.—War Dance by Firelight.—March of Caravan by Moonlight.—Morning Prayer.—The Mummy of a High Priest is added to the curiosities.—Both banks of the river are shown in the Painting.—Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly, daily at Three and Eight.—Admission, 1s.; pit, 2s.; stalls, 3s. Children and schools, half price.

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pence.—These delightful Gardens, which cannot be equalled in England, are OPEN DAILY. The Italian Garden, Botanical Garden, and Wilderness are now viewed in perfection. Two Military Bands perform daily, and at five o'clock a Quadrille Band for dancing, in the Grand Banquet Hall. Baron Nathan, M.C. Refreshments supplied in the Gardens. Steamboats call at Rosherville Pier. Last train for London at Ten o'clock. Excursion Parties liberally treated with.

MONUMENT TO EBENEZER ELLIOTT.

At a Public Meeting, held at Sheffield on the 24th of April last, it was resolved to erect a Monument to the memory of the late Ebenezer Elliott, and a Committee was appointed to obtain subscriptions for that purpose from all classes of the community.

The following subscriptions are already promised towards the Elliott Monument:—

	£	s.	d.
R. Cobden, Esq., M.P., London	10	0	0
Town Trustees of Sheffield	10	0	0
T. Birks, Esq., Mayor of Sheffield	10	0	0
Samuel Bailey, Esq., do.	10	0	0
Thos. Dunn, Esq., do.	10	0	0
P. Ashberry, Esq., do.	10	0	0
G. P. Naylor, Esq., do.	5	0	0
F. Hoole, Esq., do.	5	0	0
Bramley and Gainsford do.	5	0	0
H. Wilkinson, Esq., do.	5	0	0
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J. W. Hawksworth, Esq., do.	5	0	0
T. R. Barker, Esq., do.	5	0	0
H. Bentley, Esq., Rotherham	5	0	0
J. C. Wilson, Esq., Sheffield	5	0	0
R. Leader, jun., & Co., do.	5	0	0
Rev. E. R. Larken, Burton	1	0	0
R. Toynbee, Esq., Lincoln	0	10	0
The Leader newspaper	5	0	0

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Coachman's ditto ditto	from 4 0 0 to 4 12 6
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CARPETING.—The present period being peculiarly one of economy, the public should purchase this description of carpeting, the advantages being durability, beauty, and novelty of design, imperviousness to dust, brilliancy of colouring, style equal to Brussels, and at a cost of half the price. Purchasers are cautioned against spurious imitations, the Felt Carpeting being always stamped "Royal Victoria Carpeting." It can be procured at all the respectable carpet houses in London and its vicinity, and in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom. THE PATENT WOOLLEN CLOTH COMPANY also manufacture table-covers, embossed and printed of the latest possible designs, and in every variety of style and colour; thick felt for polishing plate glass, steel, marble, tortoiseshell, &c., &c., likewise for veterinary purposes; felt waistcoatings, cloths for coach and railway carriage linings, upholsterers, &c.; piano felts; felt rustic and wide-awake hats.—Manufacturers, Elmwood Mills, Leeds, and Borough-road, London. Wholesale warehouses only at 8, Love-lane, Wood-street, Chelmside.

COMPLAIN NO MORE OF INDIGESTION.

SUFFER NO LONGER FROM LIVER

COMPLAINTS.—WALTER TRAVIS, M.D., F.R.S.

Medical-hall, Manchester, having discovered a safe and really effectual remedy for indigestion, Bilious and Liver Complaints, the result of a singularly successful experiment, recently made, and by which he had cured a considerable number of patients, whose cases he had previously considered hopeless, or very doubtful; amongst whom are several individuals of distinction, who were languishing under the withering effects of indigestion and affections of the Liver. He has determined to offer it to the public at the lowest possible charge, and will supply the remedy to persons applying at the Medical-hall for 2s. 6d.; or to parties residing at a distance, it will be forwarded, postage free, with the most complete directions, to any part of the united kingdom, on sending thirty-six postage stamps to Dr. Walter Travis, 80, Travis-street, Manchester.

The following are selected from a great number of testimonials:—

Dr. Gray says, "I have adopted your remedy in several cases of Constipation (Indigestion) which have lately come under my treatment; and also in one very bad case of Liver Complaint, and I am happy to add with the most satisfactory results."

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MEMOIRS and PAPERS of SIR ANDREW MITCHELL, K.B. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Court of Great Britain to the Court of Prussia, from 1756 to 1771. By ANDREW BISSETT, M.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge, and of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. With a portrait.

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On Saturday, June 22nd, will be published, PRICE ONE PENNY, No. 1. of

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Edited by G. JULIAN HARNEY.

Assisted by several able and popular writers. This periodical, which is to be published weekly, will prove a staunch champion and a faithful organ of true democratic progress, and will fearlessly advocate the interests and assert the rights of the Proletarians. Translations from the Democratic-Socialist Literature of Continental Europe will constitute a leading feature of the

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A Few Words about Divorce.

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A Few Figures Important to be Remembered.—Dissimilarity of opinion respecting the Time of the Deuce.—Does Property bear its fair share of Taxation?—Salaries of the English and American Executives Contrasted.—Amount of Wealth and Life sacrificed for Glory—How do the Aristocracy get hold of the Land?—The Church in Ireland.

London: J. Watson, 3, Queen's Head Passage, Paternoster-row. To be had, on order, of most Booksellers.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—The NEWSPAPER STAMP ABOLITION COMMITTEE respectfully SOLICIT the ATTENTION of the Public to the STATEMENT of FACTS contained in the following PETITION, which was PRESENTED to the HOUSE of COMMONS, on MONDAY, June 3, by Mr. MILNER GIBSON:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

THE PETITION of THE NEWSPAPER STAMP ABOLITION COMMITTEE.

Sheweth, That it is a characteristic feature of despotism to impede the diffusion of knowledge among the people, by subjecting the press to the immediate supervision of the Executive Government.

That in this country the Government has for one hundred and thirty-eight years exercised an indirect surveillance over the press through the medium of taxation, which has had the effect of lessening its usefulness by crippling its energies and limiting the supply of information.

That the principle of restraining the press by taxation is now almost universally admitted to be worse than useless for all moral purposes, yet the laws made for this purpose are retained for the sake of revenue.

That by the 6th and 7th of William IV., cap. 76, commonly called the Newspaper Act, all periodical publications are practically divided into three classes:—

1st. Newspapers stamping the whole of their impression.

2nd. Monthly publications, unstamped and abstaining from public news.

3rd. Weekly and fortnightly publications, abstaining not only from public news, but from comments thereon.

That all periodical publications not coming under one of these heads are liable to severe penalties.

That all periodical publications containing advertisements are obliged, by the before-mentioned act, to deposit one copy of each impression with the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, and that, by so doing, they escape all penalties incurred for containing illegal matter, until such illegality shall have been notified to them by the Board.

That as copies of all periodicals are thus sent to the Board of Inland Revenue, they may fairly be considered as published with their sanction.

That the law above cited is relaxed by the Board of Revenue in a manner which appears to your petitioners to be extraordinary, unaccountable, and capricious.

That the following classes of illegal publications exist, under the sanction of the Board of Inland Revenue:—

1.—CLASS PUBLICATIONS not liable to stamp duty, abstaining from public news, and stamping a part of their impression, a proceeding not recognized by law. Of this class are:—

Weight.	Font-size according to weight commuted for 1d. stamp.	Title.	Publisher's Name.	Publisher's Address.
02	d.	National Temperance Chronicle	Houlston and Stoneman	Paternoster-r.
1	1	Female Journal	Pisman	Bath.
1	2	Homeopathic Times	Headland	Princes-street
1	2	Gospel Standard	Gadsby	25, Bouverie-st.
1	2	Sunday School Mag.	Partridge and Oakley	Paternoster-r.
1	2	Gospel Banner	Hall and Co.	25, Paternoster-r.
1	2	Chemical Advocate	R. and J. Taylor	Red Lion-court
1	2	Vegetarian Gazette	Horsell	Alldine-chambers
1	2	Notes and Queries	George Bell	168, Fleet-street
1	2	Sailors' Magazine	Ward and Co.	Paternoster-r.
1	4	Church Missionary Intelligencer	Seely	Fleet-street
2	4	Gospel Magazine	H. G. Collins	22, Paternoster-r.
1	4	Primitive Church Magazine	Hale and Co.	25, Paternoster-r.
1	4	Ragged School	Partridge and Oakley	Paternoster-r.
1	4	Union Magazine	R. and J. Taylor	Red Lion-court
1	4	Botanical Gazette	R. and J. Taylor	[Fleet-st.]
1	4	London Medical Gazette	Longman	9, Paternoster-r.
1	4	Ladies' Companion	Bradbury and Evans	11, Bouverie-st.
1	4	London Review	Chapman & Levy	5, Shoe-lane
1	4	Musical World	W. S. Johnson	St. Martin's-lane
1	4	Patent Journal	Chas. Johns	89, Chancery-lane
1	4	Cottage Gardener	Ort	Ancient-corner.

2.—MONTHLY PUBLICATIONS containing public news, liable to stamp duty, but only partially stamped. In this class are:—

1	4	Protestant Magazine	J. F. Shaw	27, Southampton-row
1	2	Herald of Peace	Ward and Co.	27, Paternoster-r.
1	2	Musical Times	Novello	69, Dean-st. Solo
1	4	The Freethinker	John Cassell	strand
2	4	Evangelical Christianity	Partridge and Oakley	Paternoster-r.
2	4	Colonial Church Chronicle	F. and J. Kingston	St. Paul's Church yard

3.—WEEKLY and FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATIONS, containing public news or comments thereon, liable to stamp duty, but only partially stamped. In this class are:—

1	2	Punch	Bradbury & Evans	85, Fleet-street
1	2	Mechanics' Mag.	J. C. Robertson	166, Fleet-street
1	4	Critic	Crookford	103, Stanhope-st.
1	4	Builder	Wyman	2, York-street.
1	4	Lancet	Churchill	423, Strand
1	4	Architect	Francis Newton	11, Wellington-street North
1	4	Legal Observer	Maxwell & Son	34, Bell-yard
2	4	Medical Times	John Churchill	Princes-street
1	2	Household Words	No Name	16, Wellington-st.
1	4	Literary Gazette	Jordan	300, Strand
1	4	Athenaeum	Francis	14, Wellington-street North

4.—MONTHLY PUBLICATIONS containing public news, liable to stamp duty, but altogether unstamped. In this class are:—

Tait's Magazine	Sutherland & Knox	Edinburgh
Norwich Reformer	Jarvis and Sons	St. Paul's-ch.-yard
Democratic Review	James Watson	3, Queen's Hd.-pas.
East India Review	Mortimer	69, Fleet-street
Art Journal	Virtue	Paternoster-row
Dublin Unvers. Mag.	M'Glashan	Dublin
Gentleman's Mag.	Nicholls	25, Parliament-st.
Journal of Design	Chapman and Hall	186, Strand
United Service Mag.	Hurst	King William-st.

5.—WEEKLY PUBLICATIONS containing public news, or comments thereon, liable to stamp duty, but altogether unstamped. In this class are:—

Cooper's Journal	James Watson	3, Queen's Hd.-pas.
Reasoner	Ditto	Ditto
Barker's People	Ditto	Ditto
Lamp	Richardson & Son	172, Fleet-street
People's Med. Jour.	George Vickers	8, Strand
Parochial Monitor	Gathercole	Chichester-pl., King's Cross.

That, in addition to the above, a glaring infraction of the law has been sanctioned, called "The Household Narrative of Current Events," edited by Charles Dickens, and published monthly at 16, Wellington-street, Strand, every page of which terms with matter requiring a stamp, but which is permitted to stamp only its country edition, thus unfairly competing with other regular newspapers which are obliged to stamp their whole impression.

That one thing only is necessary to complete the nullity of the existing law, namely, that the last-mentioned newspaper or one like it should be published weekly; and that your petitioners are convinced that if any of the regular newspaper press were to publish a portion of their impression unstamped the Board of Revenue could not consistently prosecute them without interfering with all the publications above recited.

That, while the law is thus set at naught wholesale by "The Household Narrative," "Punch," "The Legal Observer," and "The Freethinker," the commissioners occasionally prohibit the publication of a short news column, as in the case of "The Norwich Reformer."

That of fifty-three publications registered as newspapers, and admitted to an illegal privilege, the following seven omit to comply with the regulations which require a full description of the printer and publisher of a newspaper to be given at the end thereof, namely, Charles Dickens's "Household Narrative," Charles Dickens's "Household Words," "The Herald of Peace," "The Legal Observer," "The Mechanic's Magazine," "Notes and Queries," and "The Sailors' Magazine."

That your petitioners can account for the laxity of the Board of Revenue only on the supposition that they have been instructed to relax all restrictions that do not increase the revenue, and that the system of stamping publications for postal circulation only, is found to be financially beneficial.

That the general adoption of this system with regard to all printed papers, would probably increase the Post-office revenue, while it would certainly aid the diffusion of knowledge, and would rescue the Government from their present dilemma, caused by a law which they have not ventured to abrogate, but which they dare not enforce.

Your petitioners, therefore, entreat that your Honourable House will appoint a select committee to inquire into the present state and actual operation of the laws respecting the stamping and posting of newspapers with a view to the enactment of such regulations as shall be, in no way wholly objectionable to the public at large, at least capable of being respected by the officers specially appointed to enforce them.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

Signed by order of the Committee and on their behalf:
 FRANCIS PLACE, Treasurer, 21, Brompton-square.
 JAMES WATSON, Sub-Treasurer, 3, Queen's Head-passage, Paternoster.
 J. DOBSON COLLETT, Secretary, 15, Essex-street, Strand.

Mr. Milner Gibson has given notice of a motion "for a select committee to inquire into the present state and operation of the law relative to newspaper stamps, also into the law and regulations relative to the transmission of newspapers and other publications by post, and to report their opinion thereupon to the House."

Subscriptions in aid of the cause may be paid to EFFINGHAM WILSON, Royal Exchange; THOMAS PROUT, 223, Strand; and to the Secretary, 15, Essex-street Strand.

STONEGRAVELS, NEAR CHESTERFIELD.

SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES, conducted by the Reverend ALFRED TURNER BLYTHE and Mrs. BLYTHE. Terms (exclusive of Masters), Fifty Guineas per Annum. Mr. and Mrs. Blythe (with the help of Mrs. Blythe's sister, Miss Williams) devote their whole time and attention to the duties of their School. They do not wish to have under their care, at one time, more than ten pupils. They can provide for the thorough comfort of this number; and can treat them, in every respect, as members of their own family. Their great object is to aid their pupils in becoming truly refined, intelligent, and conscientious women. It is not, they think, of so much importance to crowd into the mind, during the comparatively short period of the school life, a large mass of information on a great variety of subjects, as to furnish the mind with those principles of thought and means of judgment which will enable their possessor, in after years, to acquire sound knowledge for herself, and to dispense it to others. They think it most important of all to show the moral bearing and uses of knowledge, and to impress upon the mind the fact that its chief value consists in its application to practical and benevolent purposes.

The physical health of a girl between the ages of ten and seventeen (which may be called the school time of life) requires the most anxious care. To overlook the brain during this period is almost to ensure future weakness, both of body and mind. Mr. and Mrs. Blythe pay, therefore, unremitting attention to the health of their pupils, and, besides securing to them daily active exercise, they never permit the work of the School to be carried on for more than between two and three hours consecutively; adapting the amount of work to be done by each pupil during the day, to her age, her state of health, and her mental capacity. By pursuing this system, they have, in more than one case, seen a child of delicate constitution strengthen under their hands.

With respect to religious instruction, Mr. and Mrs. Blythe would only say, that while they use their utmost endeavours to foster in their pupils the religious feelings and affections, they think that they would not be justified in enforcing specific opinions, notwithstanding the strength of their own convictions on this subject. At the same time, they are willing and anxious to give explanations whenever they are asked, and to aid in removing difficulties whenever they are felt. They believe, however, that a decision on theological matters ought to be left to an age when the powers of thought and judgment are fully matured.

The ordinary course of study in the School embraces the subjects of History, ancient and modern; the History of Literature; Geography, mathematical, physical, political, and descriptive; Writing, Grammar, and English Composition; Arithmetic, and the elementary branches of Geometry; and, with a special view to encourage the powers of observation, the elements of Natural History and Natural Philosophy.

The Reverend Joseph Hutton, LL.D., London; William Turner, Jun., Halifax; James Martineau, Liverpool; Samuel Bache, Birmingham; and Charles Wicketed, Leeds; Frederick Swanwick, Esq., Whittington, near Chesterfield; and Mrs. Turner, Lenton Field, near Nottingham, have kindly permitted reference to them.

London: Printed by ROBERT PALMER (of No. 3, Cheapside-terrace, in the Parish of Kensington, Middlesex), at the Office of Robert Palmer and Joseph Clayton, No. 10, Crane-court, Fleet-street, in the Parish of St. Dunstons in the West, in the City of London; and published by JOSEPH CLAYTON, Junr. of and at the Publishing-office, No. 26, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement, Dances, in the City of Westminster.—SATURDAY, June 16, 1850.